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# EXERCISES

HELD AT THE

## DEDICATION OF A MEMORIAL

TO

MAJOR JONAS RICE,

THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER OF WORCESTER, MASS.,

ON WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7, 1903,

AND AT THE

REUNION OF THE DESCENDANTS

OF

EDMUND RICE,

WHO SETTLED IN SUDBURY, MASS., IN 1639,

HELD IN SALISBURY HALL, WORCESTER, MASS., ON THE  
AFTERNOON OF THE SAME DAY.

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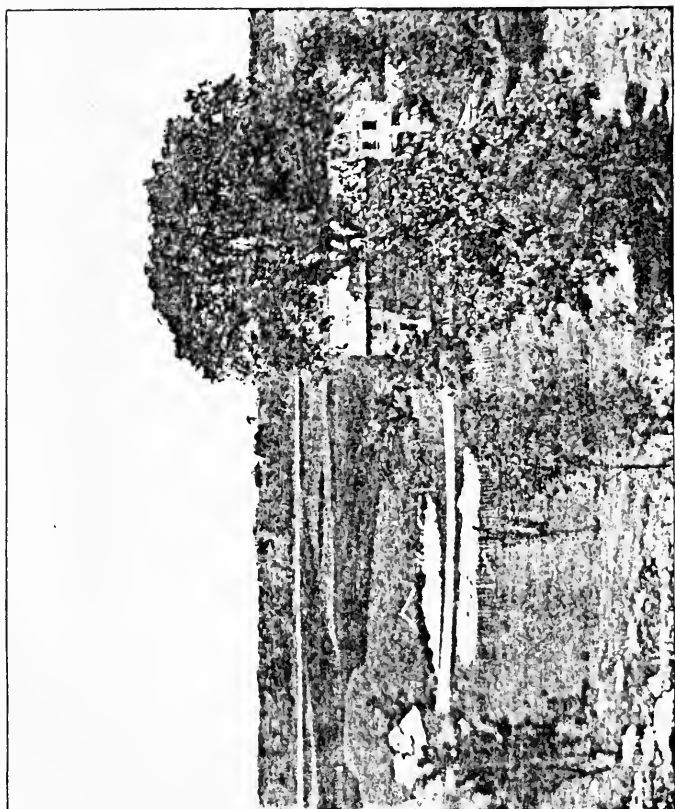
WORCESTER, MASS.

1903.





1951913



EDMUND RICE HOMESTEAD, 1639,  
WITH VIEW OF THE OLD SPRING SUDBURY, NOW WAYLAND, MASS.



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Exercises held at the dedication of a memorial  
to Major Jonas Rice, the first permanent  
settler of Worcester, Mass., on Wednesday  
Oct. 7, 1903, and at the reunion of the  
descendants of Edmund Rice, who settled in  
Sudbury, Mass., in 1639 ... Worcester, Mass.,  
Press of C. Hamilton, 1903.  
72p. ports. 26cm.

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Wharf List



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PRESS OF CHARLES HAMILTON,  
WORCESTER, MASS.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE Worcester Society of Antiquity has for one of the principal objects of its existence the preservation of ancient documents and other memorials of the past,—especially those relating to the early history of Worcester,—and the marking in a suitable manner of places of historic interest in this vicinity.

Something has already been accomplished in that line, and the following pages will give in detail the results of the Society's latest efforts in the interest of local history.

For many years it has been contemplated to mark in some befitting way the site of the home of the first permanent settler of Worcester, Major Jonas Rice, who came hither from Sudbury in 1713, and located his abode on Sagatabscot Hill, near what is now Heywood Street, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at a ripe old age, honored and respected by his fellow citizens.

He was the grandson of Edmund Rice, who came from Barkhamstead, Hertfordshire, England, and settled in Sudbury, Mass., in 1639, and the son of Thomas Rice who was in Marlborough in 1664, and died there in 1681.

Jonas Rice lived alone in Worcester from 1713 till 1714 or 1715, when he was joined by his brother Gershom, who eventually settled on Pakachoag Hill, in that part of Worcester which is now Auburn,—they being known as the "Fathers of the Town."





Jonas Rice was Selectman, Judge, Schoolmaster, Town Clerk and Representative in the General Court; and both he and the other members of his family, who at different times settled here, were throughout their lives prominently identified with the early history of Worcester. In this pamphlet may be found copies of several interesting original documents, now preserved in this city, either written by them or bearing their signatures.

The following pages are a reprint from the Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity.



## THE RICE FAMILY.

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In the early part of June, 1903, with the hope of encouraging the observance of "Home Week" in Worcester, the Worcester Society of Antiquity through its Executive Committee voted to give the use of Salisbury Hall as a place of meeting, providing representatives of either of the early settlers of Worcester desired to call a family gathering; and in response to invitations sent out by the Librarian, Messrs. George M. Rice, George H. Rice, Thomas C. Rice, Franklin P. Rice and George Maynard held counsel with President Lyman A. Ely and the Librarian at the office of the Society, and as a result of this conference the five gentlemen whose names are first mentioned were constituted a committee on the part of the descendants of Major Jonas Rice, to act in conjunction with the Society's Committee for Marking Historical Places to arrange for marking the site of the home of this first permanent settler, Selectman, Town Clerk, Schoolmaster and Judge, and the calling of a Rice family gathering. But owing to the proposed absence from the city for a brief time of two members of the committee it was decided to postpone the exercises until the seventh day of October. Subsequently the following programme was prepared and the day observed in accordance therewith.



*Exercises held on Heywood Street, October 7, 1903,*

in placing a properly inscribed Boulder to indicate  
the location of the first home of Major Jonas Rice  
in Worcester . . . . .

Conducted under the direction of

*The Worcester Society of Antiquity's Committee for Marking  
Historical Places.*

Mrs. R. B. Dodge, Chairman,  
Mary Louisa Trumbull Cogswell,  
Henry Brannon,  
Hon. Ledyard Bill,

Chauncey G. Harrington,  
Abram K. Gould,  
George E. Arnold,  
Charles E. Burbank.

## Programme.

1. ADDRESS OF WELCOME, By President Ely
2. PRAYER, By Rev. Dr. Frank Crane
3. SINGING, By the School Children  
Under direction of Charles I. Rice.
4. HISTORICAL ADDRESS, By Capt. Charles E. Burbank
5. PRESENTATION TO THE CITY, By President Ely
6. ACCEPTANCE, By His Honor Mayor Fletcher
7. SINGING OF AMERICA.



## ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BY PRESIDENT LYMAN A. ELY.

*To Your Honor, Edward F. Fletcher, Mayor of Worcester,  
Distinguished Visitors, Ladies and Gentlemen :—*

We are gathered here to do honor to the memory of Major Jonas Rice, the first permanent settler of Worcester, and to pause a few moments from the rush and turmoil of a busy city life to show in some degree our appreciation of the man who possessed the courage and fortitude to face the dangers incident to a life in a wilderness, which resulted in the laying of the foundation for this, our beloved city of Worcester.

And it is a special privilege enjoyed by each member of the Worcester Society of Antiquity to point out and bring to public attention the important service performed by this man towards whom our thoughts are turned to-day. We believe the placing of memorials of any kind to emphasize and perpetuate the worthy deeds of our forefathers will prove a sign of culture among our inhabitants and reflect somewhat the character of our people.

It is my pleasant duty in behalf of the Worcester Society of Antiquity to extend a most hearty welcome to all, old and young, gathered here to-day to witness these exercises. To all who have so faithfully assisted in bringing to a successful result the object of this gathering, I extend the earnest thanks of this Society.

The Society is also largely indebted to the descendants of Edmund Rice, who are present in large numbers, for their co-operation in this celebration, and it is with great pleasure that the Worcester Society of Antiquity extends to them the full and free use of the Society's building on Salisbury street. Your presence has added greatly to the interest of this occasion and it is most fitting that you make this occasion an opportunity for the grand family





reunion which is to take place this afternoon at Salisbury Hall.

## HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

BY CAPTAIN CHARLES E. BURBANK.

It is of no small moment that in this thrilling and expansive age of American life, there should appear even in our most prosperous districts a sane consciousness of the past. It seems to presage the re-appearance among our democratic excellencies of that virtue so long wanting and so necessary to our symmetrical ethnic development,—the virtue of reverence. When Worcester and sister cities, Rutland and sister towns, begin to mark the spots where enterprises of great pith and moment sprang into life, it is eloquent evidence that social progress is marching grandly on.

Yes, we are growing conscious of the heroisms of the past. We are what we are, not altogether because environed by these hills of to-day, overarched by these skies, surrounded by these living, thinking men and women, but because of these other hills of two centuries ago, because these heights once rang with the murderous war-whoop of the savage, because two hundred years ago, there delved in these valleys and struggled upon these hills men of conscience and men of iron. Let us consider for a moment, in its relation to this community, that influence and that past.

Worcester like so many other truly great things in American history was attempted several times before it was given local habitation and a name.

According to the recent investigations of Francis E. Blake, Esq., the first settlement in this town, if settlement means the building of a house, must be credited to a committee of which General Daniel Cookin was chairman; this was probably in 1672 or '73, and in the vicinity of





CHARLES E. BURBANK, M.A.



the present city farm. At about the same time houses were built by Ephraim Curtis and Thomas Browne. The settlements by Gookin and Browne were designed to develop the new Plantation which the General Court had authorized in 1668. The enterprise progressed slowly till 1675, when the outbreak of King Philip's war, which raged with violence in this vicinity, drove these early pioneers from their homes, and left Worcester, or Quinsigamond as it was then called, desolate and more inhospitable than when the attempted settlement was begun.

With King Philip killed and the hostile savages driven from this vicinity, exertions were again made by the committee of settlement, especially by General Gookin to occupy this district. The proprietors slowly returned; others joined them; the name was changed from Quinsigamond to Worcester; mills were erected; minor town officers were appointed,—and this time it looked as though permanency would be given the settlement; but such was not to be, for, though the town prospered from 1684 till the end of the century, on the breaking out of Queen Anne's war, the Indian once more began his murderous hostility and in the year 1702 (says the historian Lincoln), "The inhabitants fled; the place of their residence was delivered up to decay; the traces of cultivation were effaced; and the silence of ruin was again over the forsaken farms and deserted homes."

It appears from the records that the settlers of this second attempt were courageous almost to recklessness, that it was only after warnings from the government at Boston that they would consent to leave their homes, and that one Digory Sargent, who had settled on Sagatabscot hill, but a little distance from where we now stand, refused to leave his farm for any reason whatever. So here on this historic hill, with no civilized neighbors within fifteen miles, with wife and young children, he worked his farm during that long summer of 1702. As winter approached,



the Indians began to plunder in this vicinity. The committee of settlement in Boston sent messengers warning Sargent to remove to a place of safety, and as he refused, they despatched an armed force to compel him to leave the place. But before they arrived, the redskins had done their bloody work, and the troops found only the mutilated body of Sargent and the deserted home polluted with his blood to tell the sad ending of the second attempt of the white man to settle this community.

During the next ten years Worcester seemed forgotten; no records have anywhere been found of any returning to this twice abandoned settlement. But with the close of Queen Anne's war, and the annihilation of the Indian war-bands of Massachusetts Bay, the march of the settler into the alluring West again commenced; the proprietors of Worcester began to think either of returning themselves or of selling their lands to others who would settle upon them. During the second settlement one Atherton, or as sometimes called Allerton, took up land here on Sagatabscot hill. This land he evidently worked till forced to leave at the abandonment of the second settlement. Allerton never returned, but sometime before 1713 sold his land to him who was to lay the lasting foundations of our vigorous metropolis,—Lieutenant Jonas Rice, real father and first permanent settler of Worcester. It was this man who late in 1713, not on October 21st, as most of the genealogies and histories state, established his home two hundred feet east of where I now stand.

This Jonas Rice whom we are met to honor to-day was the son of Thomas and Mary Rice of Sudbury; Thomas being the son of Edmund Rice who came to this country from England in 1639. This Edmund Rice, grandfather of Jonas, was the founder of the Rice family in America, the original Rice of all the Rices before me and of the hundred thousand or more who, it is estimated, have lived in America since his day.





The first trait in the character of Jonas Rice to catch our attention is that of resolute courage. He may well be taken as the typical Puritan pioneer settler. The record has it that after coming here in 1713, he remained with his family alone in the forest, the solitary male inhabitant of Worcester until the spring of 1715. Mark, if you please,—though the settlers had been driven from this plantation, though the Indians had lately murdered Digory Sargent on this very hill, there came this man, sole male inhabitant of a wilderness of at least 100 square miles, to build his cabin and establish his home on the very tract of land stained by the blood of the murdered Sargent. I have said this pluck of Rice's was persistent, and so it was, it was not expended with the heroism of that first lonesome winter, for all through his life here this man was beset with danger which, if not so dramatic as that threatening him at first, was full as real and much more troublesome. There is the tradition that he had to move his cabin from its first site to the spot where yonder marker flies, because the rattlesnakes were so thick as to threaten the extermination of his family. I am inclined to credit this tradition, for I find in the early records that each town meeting for nearly half a century was careful to declare a generous bounty on rattlesnakes. The wolves, too, I find a constant menace to the settlers, it being many years before the town, by bounty and poison could drive them out.

As we read the records of this community, we find another virtue illuminating the life of Jonas Rice, that of unselfish interest in public affairs. We find it was Jonas Rice who first petitioned the General Court for permission to call a town meeting here; and when the meeting met in 1722, it seems that the man in whom the citizens reposed especial confidence was this same Jonas Rice, electing him selectman, town clerk and assessor. This confidence of his fellow citizens it seems never abated, as they re-elected



him town clerk nearly every year thereafter till his death at eighty years of age, elected him selectman eight different times, and in fact appointed him to so many different positions of responsibility that in the index of the town records under Jonas Rice, instead of referring to the pages where his name occurs, it gives this summary sentence, "His name occurs on nearly every page of the book."

The education of Rice was considerable for his time. He was chosen the first schoolmaster of Worcester and instructed children in reading and writing during the school year of 1726. The volume of records preserved in yonder City Hall and written in still unfading characters by the hand of Jonas Rice is no slight tribute to his scholarship.

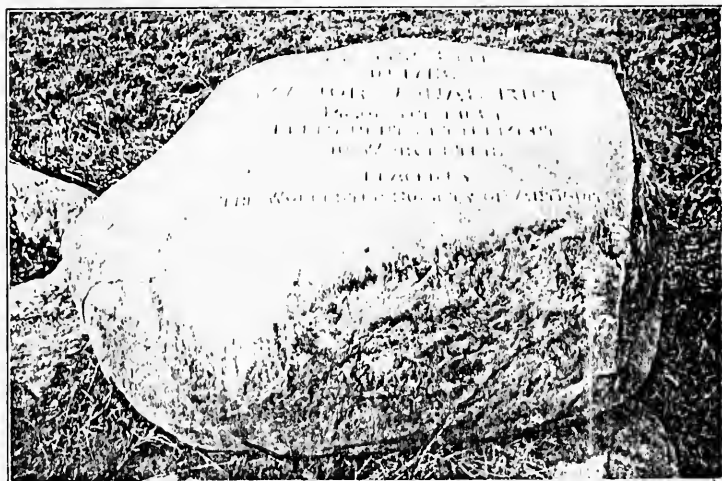
The interest of this man in church affairs was very deep and wholesome. The records show him not so much enjoying the privileges which the church then bestowed upon the faithful, as performing some service to the church and community. He was one of a small committee chosen to assign the pews in the first church; he was one of a committee to distribute the ministerial land; he was deacon of the church from 1748 till his death.

It does not seem that Major Rice was neglectful of his duties as a soldier. He seems to have been endowed with the qualities of leadership. When he settled here he held the rank of Lieutenant, and as the records show, rose to be Captain in 1732 and Major in 1734.

The public spirit of this man extended farther than the limits of the town. In 1752 the County appointed him a Judge of the Court of General Sessions and Inferior Court of Common Pleas; one of his associates on the bench was General Artemas Ward's father, of Shrewsbury. It is interesting to notice that on the day of his appointment as Judge he was already eighty years of age, exceeding by ten years the age at which judges in so many states are required by law to retire from office.

Of the domestic life of our first settler we wish we knew





RICE BOULDER,

HEYWOOD STREET.



more, but no journal or diary comes to our aid; the man was so busy working in the concrete, and keeping the records of others, how could he keep the record of himself! We are, however, warranted in saying, from documents in the hands of distant relatives, from his will, and from tradition, that his generous kindness towards those of his own family and name was very conspicuous. His will, though not disposing of a large estate, in all amounting to less than two hundred pounds, is written in a tone of such noble optimism, that we might well expect its author to be thirty instead of eighty years of age.

In September, 1753, Jonas Rice was borne to his last resting-place in the old graveyard on the Common, and there his ashes repose to-day. Little he dreamed of the city that in a century and a half would grow up in sight of his early cabin home. Never a thought had he for the one hundred and thirty thousand now settled within the limits of the town he founded, but we look back to him with honest pride, hoping that in our private and public life we may be as loyal to duty, as sensitive to truth, as courageous in right living, as was the first settler of this community, Major Jonas Rice.

## PRESENTATION TO THE CITY.

BY PRESIDENT ELY.

And now, Mr. Mayor, it becomes my further pleasure to pass over to your care, as the chief executive of this prosperous and growing city, this marker, placed here to record the home of the first permanent settler of Worcester. Trusting that our city fathers, present and future, will show their appreciation of the valuable services rendered this community by this prominent settler, by protecting and perpetuating it during the years that are to come, that it may remain as a public reminder of the deeds of an esteemed and trusty townsman.





## ACCEPTANCE.

BY HIS HONOR MAYOR FLETCHER.

*Mr. President and Members of the Society of Antiquity,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:—*

It seems fitting that a memorial should be erected designating the site where the first permanent settler of Worcester, Major Jonas Rice, established his home. As has been stated by the preceding speakers, he was not only the first permanent settler, but was one of the judges of the Inferior Court of Worcester. He was also a selectman for eight years, town clerk for six years, and a deacon of the first church. He took a great interest in the education of the youth of the town, and freely offered his services as a teacher, without money or price. He was a deputy sheriff. He also held many other high and responsible positions in the town and state. A man of forceful character and a true type of the sturdy New Englander of those times.

I am not here to give an historical address, but to perform the pleasing duty of receiving and accepting, in behalf of the city of Worcester, this memorial, placed here by the Worcester Society of Antiquity.

Worcester is indeed favored in having such societies as this, the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution, and kindred organizations, whose aim and efforts are to perpetuate the memories and deeds of her sons and daughters, who, in the early days of her existence, passed through many hardships, and whose descendants enjoy to-day the fruits of their sacrifices and privations.

Our city is rich in historic landmarks, and owes, in large measure, to the patriotic and historic societies the designating and marking of memorable spots: among them being the Col. Timothy Bigelow monument on the Common; the birthplace of George Bancroft; the tablets on the Common



in memory of the Revolutionary soldiers buried there; the star in front of the City Hall, marking the spot where the Declaration of Independence was first read in New England; and the site of the schoolhouse where the staunch patriot, John Adams, taught.

It is well that the youth of this and future generations should be reminded of the hardships endured and the sacrifices made by the founders of our beautiful city by these memorials, and I wish there were more of them.

It must be a source of great satisfaction to you to-day, as you look upon this boulder, to feel the consciousness of a duty well performed. Again, you will be rewarded by the thought that you not only bestow a great gift upon the present inhabitants of our city, but upon future generations.

In behalf of the city of Worcester, I accept this memorial and sincerely thank you for the gift, and express the city's appreciation of the spirit which prompted it. Let me assure you, Mr. President, that in accepting it the citizens of Worcester appreciate your patriotic endeavors, and would unite with you in every aspiration that looks to the advancement and honor of her citizens.

The exercises on Heywood street closed with the singing of "America."

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At two o'clock in the afternoon the descendants of Edmund Rice began to gather at the rooms of the Society, where, a half hour later, in Salisbury Hall, the assembly of four hundred representatives of this numerous family were called to order by Mr. George M. Rice, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, who in presiding, opened the meeting with an address of welcome.

Upon the platform with Mr. George M. Rice were seated the following persons: Hon. Stephen Salisbury, President



Lyman A. Ely of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, Judge William T. Forbes, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, Edward D. Rice, of Boston, General Edmund Rice, of Boston, Thomas C. Rice, N. W. Brooks, of New York, Rev. John C. Crane, of West Millbury, George Maynard, Charles I. Rice and about thirty school children.

## ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BY GEORGE M. RICE.

*Ladies and Gentlemen, descendants of Edmund Rice:—*

It is with extreme satisfaction that I welcome so goodly a number of the Rice kindred on this most memorable occasion, long to be remembered, and its incidents to be recalled by those present, and especially by those of our kin whom circumstances of various kinds have prevented from being present in person, but who will treasure up all of our doings that may be chronicled, eagerly sharing with ourselves the liveliest interest in facts pertaining to the history of the Rice family, or that of Edmund Rice, our common ancestor.

The exercises of this morning bring into broader light and commemorate the virtues of Major Jonas Rice, grandson of Edmund Rice, to whom may be fully credited the honor of founding the final settlement of Worcester, which, since his time, has grown into the bustling and busy city of which we, who are natives, or affiliates, are so justly proud.

Of him it may be truly said that he feared nothing but his "conscience and his God," for he lived here with his





GEORGE M. RICE.





family all alone in the depths of the primeval forest, surrounded by savage beasts and still more savage men, for nearly two years, until joined by his brother, Gershom Rice, to be followed by others of his brothers and sisters, until we find eight, including himself,—all children of Thomas Rice, and mentioned in "Lincoln's History of Worcester" as being proprietors of land.

Two others, who were cousins, bearing the name of Rice, are also mentioned, making ten, out of forty names given as the original proprietors, who were either of the Rice blood, or had married into the Rice family.

Let us pause a while, and think how much we, the inhabitants of Worcester, owe to those who were associated together and known as its first proprietors, whose courage, virtues and habits of sturdy industry began and made possible the building of this goodly municipality. I am afraid that if we of the present generation were obliged to undergo the privations and hardships which were then common to our ancestors, we should cut but a sorry figure in comparison; but fortunately we live in different times and are not called upon to make such sacrifices.

Who shall say that the spirit of thrift and enterprise inherent in our fathers has not been handed down through the generations and transmitted to those who have become our citizens, and thus made the Worcester of to-day? Let us, then, as relatives and kindred of the Rices so conspicuous in its beginning, hope that its course may ever be upward and onward, as long as the state and nation shall endure.

As a direct descendant of Edmund Rice of the eighth generation, and in behalf of the Society of Antiquity, and the several committees who have formulated the exercises of the day, I welcome and cordially greet you, each and all, hoping and trusting that a similar occasion will call us together and at a time not far distant, to again enjoy a gathering together of the Rice family.



The exercises then proceeded according to the following programme:—

## Programme.

1. MUSIC. Singing by the School Children  
Under direction of Mr. Charles I. Rice.
2. ADDRESS OF WELCOME, By George M. Rice
3. MUSIC. Singing by the School Children
4. ADDRESS, By Thomas C. Rice
5. MUSIC. Singing by the School Children
6. ADDRESS, By Judge William T. Forbes
7. POEM, By George Maynard
8. ADDRESS, By Rev. John C. Crane
9. VOLUNTARY REMARKS AND REMINISCENCES.
10. CLOSING THE EXERCISES WITH SINGING OF AMERICA.

### ADDRESS.

By THOMAS C. RICE.

I purpose at this time to give to the Rices assembled a somewhat desultory account of the family from the time most remote in which the family name occurs, down to the generation of to-day—a small, but under the circum-



stances, generous proportion of whom have here convened to cultivate the remembrance of their ancestry and to foster that sense of race amity so promising, judged by the alacrity with which you have responded from far and near to the call of kinship in this locality.

In speaking of one whose name I bear, which I must do almost immediately or I shall never reach a finis, let me first remark that historical facts, or names without significance, are in few cases entertaining and never instructive, and by that rule no man of any name deserves remembrance by posterity, except he has made his mark either in public consideration or in the hearts of his fellows.

So, therefore, although there have been many Rices, I cannot afford to name, nor you to listen to the stories of such as were born to temporarily occupy a more unessential vacancy in the body politic to which they were assigned by nature. And, again, it is unsafe even to name distinguished progenitors lest the public, ever watchful for an inordinate display of egotism, shall question where the reflected glory is designed to apply. Reflex credit or honor will ever fail to illumine the obscure recesses of inanity. And with this preliminary, I will proceed to narrate to you the story of the men of more or less mark among the Rices, as I learned it in childhood from reading and from listening to my elders—the direct descendants of the first white men to drive stakes for a habitation in the plantation of Quinsigamond, where now you are.

First, I must anticipate this last named event by carrying you back five hundred and eighteen years, to the battle of Bosworth field. I am expected to give you my knowledge so far as it may go, of the genealogy of the tribe of Rices—who all sprang from one stock—and beyond that whatever of consequence may have marked the career of any member of the race. But were I to do that in anything like its entirety, it would debar minds better qualified from more pleasurably occupying your attention.



Two incidents in the family history I may cite as at least out of the ordinary. One is a case of high treason in the most aggravated form, and the other, that of Worcester's pioneers, which was in a sense heroic. The first to cite is that of a certain other Thomas Rice, Col. Thomas Rice, whose death occurred five hundred and eighteen years ago at the battle above named. Forsaking the flag of the house of Lancaster, by which his fortunes had been nourished, at a time when this first patron, the Earl of Richmond, was somewhat under the weather, he espoused the cause of the Duke of Gloster, vacillating at a most critical juncture, and under the promise of a dukedom, he brought his regiment into line with the forces of King Richard, where he fought manfully, as most men do whose trade is war, and died by a spear wound just as he was about to relinquish to his commander the much called for "Horse," or in other words to swap his horse for a kingdom, which, fortunately for us his descendants, who could never have endured the burden of royalty, he never came in possession of. And just here you must accord to me a tithe of poetic license. Historians make pretence of doing without it, but they use it nevertheless, and most inordinately, otherwise no one would read the products of their pens.

Macaulay has said, "All history is made up of fact, fiction and theory." To me it seems the subject of true history is made up of casualties, personal deeds and events, and between each two of these component parts there is of necessity a lapse, which must be filled by connecting links, and will be so filled by the historian, or the author at once loses his grip upon the reader's interest and attention. I could hardly demonstrate this portion of the genealogical line except by a process of analogical reasoning, which you might charge as sophistry. But I will presume upon it by first giving Shakespere as authority for saying that the Duke of Gloster, Richard III., at the





critical moment when his claim to the English crown hung upon the issue of a battle with Henry of Richmond, called upon Col. Thomas Rice, then in Wales, to aid him with his body of soldiers in suppressing the said Richmond.

We must presume that the said Thomas Rice had proven himself a bold and successful commander, otherwise he would hardly have been selected for the important task in preference to other commanders of troops nearer at hand. "But why," you will ask, "insist upon styling this son of Mars as Col. Thomas Rice, while Shakespere names him Rice ap' Thomas?" I answer, because according to present forms of nomenclature I am right. Ap' is simply an abbreviation of the word appellative. That Rice whose designation, or baptismal name is Thomas, would in accordance with present usage be Thomas Rice.

Now let me remark that for the last three hundred years the name Thomas has occurred in every generation of Rice and often in many families, not only in America, but in England, Ireland and Wales and in Holland, notably during the Puritan expatriation in that last named country. Now how came it that the name Thomas as a prefix, a Christian name, has been used so persistently through the intervening years? Simply that the son of an unlettered Irish peasant has risen by force of will, and glory of achievement, to command the admiration of an English king, and to be so preferred by him at a most critical moment. With the Rices it was the halo about the head of this Thomas which inspired them to emulate through their offspring the hero of many battles, just as to-day with us, Washington, Jefferson and Hamilton find vogue as prefixes to infant cognomens, or as here a Mr. Homer of Worcester named his son Virgil Milton Homer. Family choice, instigated by pride and hope, incited the practice, and what was born in emulation, merged into habit, and many who never knew the reason why, are merely following suit.

As near as can be learned, this Col. Thomas Rice—or



Rice ap' Thomas—at the age of thirty took military service under Edward IV., and subsequently we find him in Wales at the head of a regiment of desperadoes enlisted under Edward's banner, but ever ready to seize upon any opportunity that promised betterment of personal conditions. He was a buccaneer in the truest sense. His Scandinavian pirate progenitors had invaded England with success, and honor with him was gauged only by achievement. No sooner had the usurper Richard apparently swept his path clear to the throne by the gentle removal of Edward and his heirs, and every other impediment, than this Rice ap' Thomas, who was alert to lend his aid at any fortunate master's bidding, readily responded to the call of the new self-made king.

Having disposed of our—I mean all the Rices earliest in the line of progeniture—I must step down in time to the rude dismissal of the no longer useful head of Charles I. and again I find among the roundhead traitors—if to be a revolutionist is to be a traitor—the name of Thomas Rice many times occurring in almost every generation of Rices down to the middle of the last century or indeed down to date.

There were among the Rices at least worthy exemplars of the pioneers of the new world. I may perhaps here give some account of the generation second preceeding myself. In order to properly understand them you must in imagination, at least, enter into their lives, scrutinize their environments, observe their habits and their modes of neighborly intercourse. My grandfather, deacon Peter Rice, was born in Ward—now Auburn—on Pakachoag hill, where his father owned a large, in extent I mean, landed property—the same that Gershom bought of the Indians. But the expectant of occupancy was an older son and, therefore, the younger must be content with forty pounds sterling with which to buy land and locate with his new wife and one child—another Thomas—who



bequeathed the appellation to me—the last I know of to bear the rude Irish fighting progenitor's name. The laws of primogeniture were here inoperative, but the custom was for some years prevalent.

Deacon Peter Rice bought the Capt. Webb farm in Holden town, upon which seven children were born to him. Being of a religious turn of mind and habit, a strict Puritan in every sense, he was soon made a deacon and, in that capacity, officiated for sixty years. I will for a moment dilate upon the old man's habits. On Saturday night everything in the way of labor must be done away with except feeding and milking the cows. Not a spark could redden the pot-hooks of the kitchen crane from sunset on Saturday until four o'clock Monday morning.

One *Christian Register*, one *Weekly Spy* and the great Bible on a side table or light stand, must serve as mental pabulum. Since I enumerate the three pieces of literature, I warn you not to touch that *Worcester Spy* until after sunset, it would not be permissible. On Sunday you would listen to two long prayers, one at daybreak and one at nightfall, and besides this there was an invocation first and a verbal thank offering last at every one of the three meals, and if the visiting grandchildren dared wink or smile during the day, a deep-toned voice from the meditative face of the grandsire could be heard: "Boys, this is the Lord's day; don't desecrate it."

Everybody is of course cognizant of the fact that talking of one's family is in a sense talking about one's self, and while we naturally omit, or at least slide over their misdeeds, we withhold the credit actually due them for fear of seeming anxious to divert their well earned luster to our own unimportant selves.

Until we are utterly divested of personal vanity, it would seem quite out of the question to persist for long in that happy medium between willingness "to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," and that baser art of filching



unearned luster, and the mean appropriation of bogus reflex honor.

But I must, now, if ever, commence the local history of the Rices, for others are waiting to address you.

They were, I mean all the Puritan immigrant Rices, located in the town of Sudbury, and Sudbury's available land was well nigh absorbed when one Jonas Rice took gun, ax and scrip, charged with a week's sustenance, and crossed the chief feeder of what he designated as Long pond, at its northernmost end, and commenced a visual survey. Surmounting the first great hill, he strolled down to what is now Lincoln square, from which, looking south, he discovered a vast irregular swamp, two miles in extent—too wet for tree growth—too wet for cultivation, and yet too dry to make it available for canoeing from hillside to hillside—winding on to the west and south by firm ground, to what is now Union hill.

From high up in the branches of a chestnut tree, he espied to the south a great tract of high undulating land, and near at hand a dozen Indian wigwams, with whose occupants he sought conference by signs, and ascertained that it was feasible to purchase two miles square of that high land, provided the occupants of the great hill south of College hill, the Pakachoag tribe, might reside on and forever hunt the land—for a sum in sterling which he was able to command. On this spot, one-half mile south of the Crompton estate, he felled trees and fashioned a cabin in which he established himself and remained alone, cultivating an acre of land, for the space of two years, at which time Gershom Rice came and subsequently established himself on Pakachoag hill, a mile to westward.

To this first named site Jonas brought his family, but the somewhat rocky place at which he first located he was compelled to abandon and shift to northward, by reason of the plentitude of rattlesnakes and the consequent danger to his family. You all know the subsequent his-





tory of what now became the eight-mile-square plantation of Quinsigamond. But I must refrain from occupying your time in its rehearsal.

In conclusion, suffice it to say, that eoterie of Sudbury Rices, after first sending representatives to Brookfield, Barre, Pittsfield and intermediate places, next spread the subsequent generations to the mouth of the Mississippi—to the Pacific—to the shores of Nova Scotia—and the northernmost bounds of upper Canada.

Her sons have filled every office of profit or honor, from governor of states, congressmen, shipmasters, merchants, manufacturers, college professors, inventors, and every place of honor or trust an appreciative public could bestow, save one, and that one as high and lustrous with honor as that of the Czar of Russia, Edward of England, or William of Germany. That one grand eminence now occupied by Theodore Roosevelt.

Thankful for your patient listening, I wish you, my kinsmen, a world of success, as I sorrowfully bid you a last affectionate goodbye!

## ADDRESS.

BY JUDGE WILLIAM T. FORBES.

Mrs. Ann Hutchinson landed in Boston in the year 1634. She gathered meetings of women and taught them her abstruse and mystical doctrines. Soon all the clergy and all but five of the church members of Boston were converted to her peculiar religious views. So Boston, when but five years old, showed herself hospitable to strange theological notions, and as it approaches its three hundredth birthday it still promptly and warmly welcomes every transcendental delusion.

The progress of heresy caused great excitement in the colony. The churches and clergy, outside of the circle



charmed and convinced by the personal influence and persuasive eloquence of this wonderful woman, rallied and condemned eighty of her doctrines in the year 1637. Mrs. Hutchinson was banished, and the excitement and alarm were so great that her adherents were disarmed.

On the 20th day of November, 1637, fearing a violent outbreak of fanaticism or resistance to the powers that be, the General Court ordered Robert Rice and fifty-eight other Boston followers of Mrs. Hutchinson to deliver up their guns, pistols, swords, powder, shot and match.

So far as I can learn, this Robert was the first person named Rice who landed in Massachusetts. Fifteen years later his real estate was sold by order of the Court, to provide means for teaching his orphan children useful trades.

The emigrant ancestor of the Worcester Rices came to this country from Barkhamstead, England, in the year 1638, or 1639. We have this reason for supposing that he and Robert were not near relatives. Family names were very persistent in the English colonies. The name Robert was an honorable one, and a name that some of his descendants would have been likely to bear.

The index to the Rice book, which gives the names of more than one thousand persons named Rice, who were descendants of Edmund Rice, does not contain a single Robert; forty-one Christian names begin with the letter T, including twenty-seven Thomases and nine Timothys. Robert was frowned upon and suppressed as a dangerous fanatic. Our ancestor, Edmund, within two years after his arrival, had become one of the rulers of the colony, and was always highly honored and esteemed.

If there is a man or woman surnamed Rice, who has disgraced the name which "old Goodman Rice" made respected in the colony of the Massachusetts Bay, we may reasonably infer that he is a descendant of the heretic Robert, and not of the kindred of the family we honor to-day.



Edmund Rice was living in Barkhampstead, Hertfordshire, England, an early home of the Mercian kings, when his fourth child, Lydia, was born, May 9, 1627. The births of four other children are recorded in that parish registry, the youngest in 1637.

The town of Sudbury had been secured by Watertown men, just before his arrival in Boston, but it had not been allotted to individual owners, when he joined them with his wife, Tamazine, and seven children.

July 4, 1639, he was appointed by the colonial government, one of seven persons to lay out the land to the inhabitants, according to their estates and persons. He performed this delicate task with such skill and fidelity, that he was chosen deputy for Sudbury the following year, and in the years 1652, 1653 and 1654.

In the year 1641 he had been appointed a magistrate to order small causes. These small causes included many offenses not now known in our criminal courts. In the year 1639 the General Court ordered that "no garment shall bee made with short sleeves whereby the nakedness of the arms may bee discovered in the wearing thereof, and such as already have garments made with short sleeves shall not hereafter weare the same unless they cover their arms to the wrist with linnen or otherwise."

Immoderate great sleeves, immoderate great breeches, broad shoulder bands, double ruffs and cuffs and other disorders in apparel were also strongly denounced.

The General Court solemnly enacted a law that "no person shall sell any cakes or buns either in the markets or victualling houses or elsewhere upon pain" of a fine of 10 shillings. "Provided that this order shall not extend to such cakes as shall be made for any burial or marriage or such like special occasion."

Goodman Rice, sitting as magistrate, was required to regulate the use of tobacco under this law of 1634: "It is ordered that no person shall take tobacco publicly under



the penalty of 2 shillings and 6 pence; nor privately in his own house, or in the house of another, before strangers, and that two or more shall not take it together anywhere, under the aforesaid penalty for every offense."

From 1632 to 1637 the Court struggled to suppress or regulate the use of the weed, but in the latter year it was voted that "all former laws against tobacco are repealed and tobacco is set at liberty."

Tobacco and its devotees did not long remain "at liberty." The General Court, finding that "since the repealing of the former laws against tobacco, the same is more abused than before," made more stringent laws than ever against its use in the following year.

Fines and imprisonment were provided for those guilty of contempt of the magistrates, and the same penalties were imposed upon judges and legislators who used reproachful or unbecoming speeches or behavior towards their fellow officials.

The five Rice brothers who owned land in Worcester soon after the founding of this town, and who pushed out so vigorously into the wilderness, were but following in the footsteps of their emigrant ancestor. Some men of wealth and more of education and refinement were found among the early settlers of this colony. The great majority, however, belonged to the middle or lower classes, which in England had looked upon the full ownership of land as the peculiar privilege of the nobility and landed gentry, and a freehold estate was the most desirable worldly possession they could gain for themselves and their children. They were land hungry, and reached out with almost covetous longing for the boundless estates stretching away to the west and occupied only by a few roving Indians.

Surveyors and chainmen pushed out into the wilderness, marking the bounds of new townships, and locating tracts of lands granted to those who had performed unpaid ser-





vices for the colony, or had contributed funds for the public good.

Our emigrant ancestor, Edmund Rice, was employed by the government on so many different occasions that I cannot take the time necessary to enumerate them all.

His name appears more than thirty times in the indexes to the old colonial records, and always in connection with important trusts, performed, so far as the records show, to the satisfaction of the persons interested, as well as with the approval of the government of the colony.

He was commissioned to marry such persons as had been duly published according to law. Candidates for matrimony in any place where there was no weekly lecture, were required to nail their intentions to a post, erected for that purpose, in a public place, fourteen days before the ceremony of marriage could be performed, otherwise notice was read in the meeting-house.

His early home was on the east side of the river in that part of Sudbury now called Wayland. For many years his descendants have gathered on the old homestead, which for more than two hundred years has remained in the family, and has usually been occupied by an Edmund Rice.

Unlike some of you, I have not had a drink from the famous spring, as fresh and young to-day as when it quenched the thirst of Goodman Rice, nor have I rested in the pleasant grove nearby, overlooking the sluggish Sudbury with its once valuable meadows. Here he spent the greater part of his quarter century residence in the new world, and from here he made numerous exploring and surveying expeditions into the wilderness, even as far west as the shores of Lake Quinsigamond. To show the nature of the public services rendered by him to the colony, I will give two or three illustrations.

Elijah Corlett, a graduate of Oxford University, taught a grammar school in Cambridge forty years. Cotton Mather



describes him as "the memorable old schoolmaster in Cambridge, from whose education our college and country have received so many of its worthy men, that he is worthy to have his name celebrated in our church history." He also taught some Indian boys from Eliot's praying towns, generally with indifferent success. Netus, a Grafton or Hassanamisco Indian, was unable to pay his son's tuition and board bill of four pounds, ten shillings, amounting with interest to seven pounds, ten shillings, and so with the consent of his tribe paid the schoolmaster in land. In the year 1661, under orders from the government, Edmund Rice met the Indians three miles north of Nipnap (now Grafton), hill, and agreed with them that Mr. Corlett should have his pay in three hundred and twenty acres of land in what has since been called the Farms district in Grafton, between the village of North Grafton and the south line of Westboro.

So far as we can learn from the state archives, this was the first official visit of Goodman Rice to this vicinity. From ten to fifty acres of land were frequently granted by the colony as equivalent to a pound.

Gov. Theophilus Eaton of Connecticut loaned the Massachusetts Bay colony twenty-five pounds and received a grant of five hundred acres of land in Westboro, since known as the Fay farm; twenty acres for a pound.

Thomas Danforth was granted two hundred and fifty acres of land in Framingham, to be laid out by old Goodman Rice and Goodman Howe, for surveying the laws at the press and making an index thereto. He also furnished Maj. Gen. Dennison and Maj. William Hawthorn with ten pounds money, and was granted so much land as "Old Goodman Rice and Goodman How shall judge the said 10 pounds to be worth, and they are empowered to bound the same to him." For some mysterious reason, that I have been unable to fathom, wild land appears to have been cheap that year.



They judged that Danforth's ten pounds were worth an area of more than 14,000 acres, constituting the greater part of Framingham.

They must have made a liberal allowance in some cases for the "sag of the chain," when surveying. Samuel How and Samuel Gookin purchased two hundred acres from the Indians. Some years after, upon complaint of the red men, the court appointed a committee of investigation. This committee reported that Gookin and How had sold off 1700 acres from the tract of two hundred acres conveyed to them by the Indians, for one hundred and fifty-six pounds, and claimed to have 1000 acres left.

While surveying land grants for others, he did not forget himself, and his numerous descendants. His name in 1656, heads the petition of thirteen inhabitants of Sudbury for that large tract of land included in Marlboro and Hudson, and the greater part of Westboro, Northboro and Southboro.

His sons, Henry and Edward, joined in the petition. Edmund Rice, who had been a selectman and deacon in Sudbury, naturally became the foremost citizen in the new town of Marlboro. He died in Marlboro in the year 1663, at the age of sixty-nine, and twelve years before the town was captured and burned by King Philip. He was twice married, and had eleven children, including Thomas, the father of Jonas Rice and the four brothers so intimately associated with the founding of Worcester.

Although the Rice family does not now form so large a proportion of the population of Worcester as in the first century of its history, many descendants of Edmund Rice, under that and other surnames, still remain with us, and thousands have gone forth to lay the foundations of other states and implant the best ideas of New England in this and other lands.

They have been leaders in church and state more than two hundred and fifty years. They rallied to the defense



of their country against the hostile savages, and their French allies. They did valiant service for liberty in the war of the American Revolution, and helped save the Union in a later struggle.

In the recent war with Spain, Massachusetts men were led by a general who not only bore the name, but inherited the courage, patriotism and noble character of our emigrant ancestor, Edmund Rice. May his descendants always be found in the van of human progress, bearing bravely and efficiently their full share of the public burdens and illustrating in their daily lives all private virtues.

## POEM.

BY GEORGE MAYNARD.

Time wings its rapid flight; the circling years,  
Filled with their clouds and sunshine, smiles and tears,  
Have brought us safely on life's varied way,  
To gather here on this auspicious day.

Autumnal glories mark the waning year;  
Springtime and Summer are no longer here;  
And, lo! a vision of bright seasons fled  
Before us rises, as if from the dead!

Days of the vanished past once more we view,—  
While Fancy's pencil paints the scene anew.  
For one brief hour her magic touch revives  
The faded picture of our fathers' lives.

Long years have passed since, from old England's shore,  
Atlantic gales our brave ancestors bore  
O'er ocean's raging billows, white with foam,  
To this bleak land, henceforth to be their home.

They left a goodly land, to memory dear,  
To find a better in the New World here;  
Better, because more freedom there should be  
In this, the chosen home of liberty.





Hither they came to build; let History tell  
 The glorious tale, and say they labored well!  
 The trackless wilderness before them lay,  
 Where savage beasts and savage men held sway;

But dauntless spirits in their bosoms glowed;  
 And steadfastly they trod the thorny road!  
 The home, the church, the school, our fathers reared,—  
 And humbly walked before the God they feared.

They set an example for all coming time,  
 By many a virtue that we deem sublime;  
 And if, perchance, some human frailties few  
 In the long record of their lives we view,

We need not blush for them, nor hope to find  
 Perfection in this world in human kind,—  
 But rather mark the picture's bright r side  
 With reverent vision, and with filial pride!

Two hundred years have well nigh rolled away,  
 Since to this place their children came to stay,  
 Planting a new and prosperous town beyond  
 The rolling waves of fair Quinsigamond.

Ah! what a change those centuries have brought  
 To this fair valley where our fathers wrought!  
 Where then the trackless forest rose in gloom,  
 And lurking foes invoked the settlers' doom,

To-day, in peace our lovely city lies,—  
 Its hundred church spires pointing to the skies;  
 On every hill some seat of learning stands;  
 While round them busy industry expands.

'Midst fertile farms that stretch beyond our sight,—  
 Making the glorious landscape still more bright,—  
 Steam and electric railways speed their freights  
 To other cities and to distant states.

And where that feeble band of settlers cleared  
 Away the forest, and their dwellings reared,  
 More than a hundred thousand souls to-day  
 In peace abide, with none to say them nay.

Stand on some height that overlooks this vale,  
 When autumn's harvests wave before the gale,  
 And the fair city, stretching far and wide,  
 Lies in the streaming sunlight glorified,



And tell me, ye who gaze with glad delight,  
 If nobler picture ever met your sight!  
 For Art and Nature here have well combined  
 To charm the raptured vision—soothe the mind.

Could but our sires rise from their long repose,  
 And see the vision that these hills disclose,—  
 That panorama that so charms our eyes,—  
 Would they not gaze thereon with strange surprise?

The times have changed,—the manners and the men;  
 The sons behold the world with different ken  
 From that the fathers had; to-day we stand  
 On heights they knew not, and the Promised Land

They saw alone by faith, 'tis ours to view  
 In all its glory, robed in brightest hue!  
 We view new scenes, we think new thoughts to-day;  
 At shrines they knew not, possibly we pray.

Thus it has always been in every land,  
 Where freeborn souls have had space to expand;  
 Thus it will ever be, till Time's last knell  
 Shall call our race to bid the world farewell.

Herein is hope; the world that moves apace,  
 Is growing fitter for man's dwelling place.  
 Let but the children never once forget  
 That to their sires they owe a lasting debt.

May they each honored name remember well,—  
 And to their sons the noble story tell;  
 And each and all, to Time's remotest bound,  
 Be, like our sires, in virtue's pathway found!

The name of RICE may well be held  
 In high esteem by all men now,  
 For it has been for ages borne  
 By loyal men who would not bow

The knee to Baal, but have stood  
 Firmly for justice and for right,—  
 And where the world demanded *men*,  
 Been ever foremost in the fight!



If gone from earth they are not dead;  
 The influence of noble lives,  
 Expanding with the passing years,  
 Their brief existence here survives.

We may not here recount them all,  
 Since that far day when EDMUND came  
 From his ancestral home, to be  
 The founder of a line of fame.

His blood to-day runs in the veins  
 Of many a thousand brave and true;  
 And royal lineage could not be  
 More glorious, though its blood were blue.

To-day we 've viewed the historic spot,  
 Where Edmund's grandson dwelt of old,—  
 JONAS, who, in those early days,  
 Was Worcester's pioneer so bold.

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On Sagatabscot's height he dwelt;  
 On Pakachoag of fair renown  
 His brother GERSHOM built his home;  
 These were the "Fathers of the Town."

At length, to keep them company,  
 Two brothers and a sister came;  
 ELISHA, JAMES, the brothers were;  
 GRACE was the sister's charming name.

Where they first settled,—how they built,—  
 And how they fared,—let History tell;  
 Your Poet's time is limited,  
 And so he bids the tale farewell.

But mark one thing,—forget it not,—  
 In Duty's path our fathers trod;  
 They went where'er its call was heard,  
 With fearless hearts that trusted God.

And whether high, or whether low,  
 The stations they were called to fill,  
 They did their best, and left behind  
 A record that is stainless still !

They saw, through their long night of toil,  
 Of patient vigils and of tears,  
 The presage of a fairer dawn,—  
 The promise of the future years!



In faith and hope they planted here  
 The seed whose harvest smiles to-day;  
 And may its fruit adorn the soil,  
 While unborn centuries roll away!

And let us feel that evermore,  
 Whate'er betide of good or ill,  
 The Hand that led their pilgrim feet  
 Will safely guide their children still!

## ADDRESS.

BY REV. JOHN C. CRANE.

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—*

I appreciate the honor of being asked to pay my feeble tribute to-day to that worthy old Puritan, Edmund Rice of Sudbury. Abler pens than mine have written and abler men have spoken of his virtues, but if perchance I may add something my labors will not be in vain.

Three centuries ago in England there were schemes and plans to control the minds and consciences of men. Men sought then as now to worship God after the dictates of their own consciences. Others denied this right to them and history gives us the result. The student of the record of that time knows of the struggles, trials and wanderings of men and women to obtain what they wished.

There was unrest in the England of that time. The sword of persecution seemingly barred the way forever to the dissenter to reach the heavenly throne in his own way.

To Holland was the watchword of the pilgrim. Others later, under assumed names, left their native soil. In obedience to the spirit of God, given to carry out his purpose, men ran the risk of imprisonment and the sundering of earthly ties. The preacher driven from his holdings sought private houses in strange places, in and among the





hills of old England, to preach the pure old gospel, and in spite of all obstacles succeeded in a measure in carrying out the purpose within him. The point of the sword stayed Oliver Cromwell as he attempted to sail to the land Columbus had found.

William Blackstone, the pioneer of Shawmut, cast longing eyes over the great waste of waters that hid a new world. The Puritan had a lingering hope that he might yet gain within the church what he sought, but life in a new land changed all things and showed how futile that hope.

At the coming of Edmund Rice, the Nipmuck country was an unknown one to the white man. Narragansett bordered it southeast, the Pequot land hemmed it in on the south, west lay the Mohawk dominion, ever encroaching, while well to the north abided the Pigwackets and Coos. The coast Indians were not long in coming to the front and making the acquaintance of their white neighbors, but the Nipmucks were for a long time comparatively unknown. The Nipmuck region abounded with hills and valleys. Hundreds of lakes and ponds dotted its surface, the sources of many small rivers, which carried tribute to old ocean's store. Old Wachusett looked down upon the whole land, spying out its wondrous beauty.

When the white men came the savages, under Philip, came to plunder.

Thither came the Narragansetts and others, until at one time, at or near Worcester, there was a body of one thousand men ready and waiting to pillage and murder. Worcester, the heart of the Commonwealth, was also very near the heart of the Nipmuck country. The plantation of Quinsigamond, with its magnificent lake of the same name, offered an inviting gathering place to the nomads of that early time. Southwest lay Bogachoag, on whose summit the Indian camp-fires burned day and night. Northwest, old 'Bumskit towered over all, fourteen hundred feet above



the coming and going of the tide in Massachusetts bay. Quinsigamond was literally a gathering place of waters. To this center came the tribute of Ramshorn, Kettle, Lynde, Tatnuck and other streams, for distribution. The evidence points to Worcester then as a great Indian center. But the Worcester of to-day, with its 125,000 souls, is a grand center for the promulgation of useful knowledge, and its possibilities as yet are past finding out.

A few days ago the headlines of a Boston daily contained the following, "The Rice birds are here." It is quite evident that the writer was ignorant of the fact that these birds have been here much of the past summer, only under another name. So, too, are gathered here to-day, many descendants of Edmund Rice of Barkhamstead, though some of us come under other cognomens. It is well to know of our family history, something of those who have preceded us on the great battlefield of life. We may not make connections, perhaps, with the greatest names in history, but it would be strange if out of the record of the past there comes not to us some history of an ancestor's daring deed for God and humanity, some tradition or tale of which we may well be proud.

But I must say that after looking over our family record and this audience, that if Darwin's theory of evolution be true, the Rice family has made wonderful progress. They have evolved a race of noble men and women, who are and have been the equals of any of the early American families. Other speakers here have told, and no doubt will tell you more about Edmund Rice than I shall. But he seems at least to have been a good and God-fearing man, and could he at this time revisit earthly scenes, I feel that he would be proud of those who have come after him. Your family has furnished a governor to Massachusetts in Alexander H. Rice, another to Minnesota in the person of Henry M. Rice. George M. Rice of Worcester was among the earliest connected with the iron and steel busi-



ness of Worcester county, while William E. Rice has been no small factor in the great wire industry that has had so much to do in making Worcester what she is to-day. Most of us remember the genial congressman, William W. Rice, who for so many years ably represented this district at Washington, and a later law-maker is present with us in the person of George M. Rice, chairman of the committee of arrangements for this occasion.

But we cannot tell of all the Rices who have done something worthy of note. I would at this time like to speak of one of the name who has done so much to aid the historian and genealogist, of past, present and future time. I refer to Franklin P. Rice of Worcester, through or by whose efforts have been published the records of Worcester, as well as of other places. With far-seeing eye, he has realized the value of this work to future generations, and well and faithfully has he performed his part. Of the early Rices, beginning with Edmund, it is noticed they run well to deacons, and one Elisha was a Baptist preacher and a gunsmith, he no doubt having faith in the old adage, "Trust in God and keep your powder dry."

If time permitted, many anecdotes of the early settlers might be given. In those days liquor was freely used in most every household, and the following is related of one member of the family at that time living near Worcester. He was a good man, highly respected in the place where he lived, and held many town offices, but his failing was to drink a little too much at times. A neighbor's house was but a few feet from his own, and one night during a pouring rain at about the hour of twelve the neighbor heard a terrible thumping at his door. He responded as soon as he was able and there stood neighbor Rice somewhat the worse for wear. The latter with rather thick utterance inquired if he could tell him where Mr. Rice lived.

The neighbor replied, "Why, you are Mr. Rice himself."



Straightening himself up as well as he was able, Mr. Rice ejaculated, "I don't care nothing about that, I know who I am, but I want to know where I live."

My grandfather, John Crane, married Ruth Humphrey, daughter of Capt. Ebenezer and granddaughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (Rice) Humphrey. The following will show the connection through to Edmund Rice and others back into England for quite a period of time. I am under obligations to Henry A. Phillips, Esq., of Boston for help in so doing.

The genealogical connection through the Rice family from my grandchildren takes in twelve generations, as follows:—

Thomas Beswick, from Kent, 1635, died at Sudbury; Capt. William Brown, first deacon at Sudbury from 1641, married Mary Beswick; Benjamin Rice, son of Edmund, married Mary Brown; Ebenezer Rice, son of Benjamin, married Bethiah Williams, daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Wise) Williams.

The Williams genealogy goes still farther back to great Yarmouth, England, 1608, to Robert Williams, who died at Roxbury in 1693, and from Robert back to another, Stephen Williams of Great Yarmouth.

The Williams line runs back through the Wise, Tompkins and Collins families into that of Thomas Rose of Exmouth, England.

Arthur Humphrey was at Woodstock, Ct., in 1686. Ebenezer, son of Arthur Humphrey, married Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Bethiah (Williams) Rice, and they had a son, Capt. Ebenezer, the revolutionary veteran.

History is replete with the records of the Rice family, and in the light gleaming back over the past record of this family, who will say the hand of God was not in the coming of Edmund Rice?

The past is secure. The future all before, with page white and clean. Let each and all of his descendants







Mrs. Webb,  
Mary A. Livermore

*Loaned by the Woman's Journal.*



strive to inscribe thereon that of which no man need be ashamed; that which shall tend to uplift humanity and redound to the honor and glory of God.

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Under the head of voluntary remarks and reminiscences, Mr. Rice introduced Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, and as the venerable woman advanced to the front of the platform, she was greeted with a storm of applause. To see Mrs. Livermore as she faced her audience, straight and erect, no one would imagine she was bearing the weight of eighty-three years, and when she began to speak in a strong, clear, well modulated voice, emphasizing her words with appropriate and graceful gestures, she displayed the life, force and energy of a young woman. She was followed with the closest attention, and was frequently interrupted by applause.

In beginning she spoke of Edmund Rice and the men who were associated with him in the pioneer days of New England. She said she had listened with the greatest pleasure to the papers read and the addresses given, on account of the large amount of valuable information they contained regarding the lives and characters of the earlier members of the Rice family.

Mrs. Livermore made an eloquent plea for justice toward all, and asked her auditors to interest themselves in the solution of some of the great problems of the day. She believed interest should be manifested in the laboring man, and to convince the capitalist that the world is not governed solely by greed. The negro should be uplifted and educated. It is a noble work to transform the children of immigrants into good American citizens. She thanked God for the noble men and women who were now engaged in this work, and hoped their numbers would continually increase.



"If we could only look ahead one hundred years," said the speaker, "what an inspiration and encouragement it would be to us. I do not believe we are going down. There are men as sturdy and fearless as Jonas Rice and his fellow pioneers, and who are better equipped than they to meet the problems which confront them. We can thank God for the outlook, for we have much to be thankful for."

She spoke of the wonders of the world, which for centuries have baffled the skill of scientists, and painted a pretty word picture of an angel telling an unborn infant of the wonderful things he would see and experience in this world, and of the incredulity the infant would show at such apparently impossible changes which the human race experiences from the beginning to the end of life. The experiences of the past caused her to believe in all possibilities of the future. She would follow on in her credulity without a halting step. If the wonderful advancement of the past three hundred years are duplicated or triplicated in the next three hundred years, this world will truly become the domain of Christ.

She said that the early Rices builded better than they knew, and asked if men to-day may not be building in like manner, for nobody realizes how his work will count any more than Jonas Rice thought of the gathering that was in this hall or of all that the family had accomplished during the years that have come and gone since its founders settled this town.

Referring to the negro question she expressed the belief that the worst of it is over; that the negro, a brother, would be given his rights, and that nothing would be placed in the way of his advancement. The evils of divorce she touched upon, and saw relief from them only in the way that the sturdy Rice family of other days had avoided them—by being home loving, God-fearing, industrious. She said that she sometimes got glimpses of the



kingdom of Christ on earth as it would surely be when progress had brought all things into the proper state.

Mrs. Livermore is a descendant of the early Rices and her presence was a feature of the occasion, especially as her name is a household word from her long life of work in the cause of woman's advancement. Her birthday will occur Dec. 19, the present year.

Mr. George M. Rice then called attention to some of the family relics brought to the reunion, and gave a brief history of them. He then introduced Mrs. A. H. Hinman, daughter of Thomas Rice, who read the following original poem:

### "THE RICE BOULDER."

To those who claim our city as  
 Their place of birth it seems one of  
 The fairest spots on God's green earth—  
 From Worcester's beating heart reach out,  
 In devious ways, electric lines  
 That bind to her, for mutual good,  
 Fair towns and villages. Through woods  
 And pasture lands, o'er lofty hills  
 And valleys deep, with subtle force,  
 Unseen, she makes her presence felt.  
 And as she threads her way along,  
 With warm electric life she links  
 To us each modest home nestled  
 In Nature's lap. O Worcester fair!  
 You long have proved your noble worth  
 And to the sons of men you stand  
 With large, expanding heart, eager  
 To give to each a useful place—  
 How numberless, for public good,  
 Your attributes, and how replete  
 With active life your inner self  
 That radiates beyond the bounds  
 Of this fair continent. We know  
 The sea does not your course impede,  
 For on the ocean wave ride ships  
 Bearing to foreign lands products





Of your rich fruitfulness. The length  
 Of our own land has felt your worth—  
 Your homes have yielded brilliant minds  
 To shape and guard our nation's weal.  
 We live within your heart and long  
 Have been the glad recipients  
 Of your most gracious gifts, and know  
 To-day you have immortalized  
 Our old ancestral tree, and we  
 Have read the words you wrote upon  
 A "Boulder's" face, that time nor tide  
 Cannot with speed efface. We know  
 That we must seal this bond of your  
 Affection true with kindly word  
 And warm hand clasp that we may bind  
 In closer bonds our kinship tie—  
 The Boulder stands that "he who runs  
 May read," and may each traveller on  
 This road of life forever read  
 Between the lines inscribed upon  
 The Boulder's sturdy face these words:  
 "Prune well your tree of all false growths,  
 Keep staunch and true the parent stems,  
 And train the tender branches from  
 Their birth and on through life to wave  
 In perfect unison, and with  
 A dignity of purpose grand"—  
 An angel hand has traced upon  
 The Boulder's face these words:  
 "There are  
 No dead, for they, the unseen, wave  
 As living branches on life's tree."

Judge Estey of Framingham presented the framed signature of Edmund Rice, and told how the Esteys were related to the family. He also told of a Sarah Rice who married Peter King, this Sarah being a newly discovered name in the list of Edmund Rice's children.

Mrs. Joseph Wood told of her connection with the family on her own and her husband's side. Her father was David Rice.

The exercises at the hall came to a close with an informal reception to Gen. Edmund Rice, William E. Rice and





GENERAL EDMUND RICE,

A U. S. A. (Retired.)



Mrs. Livermore, who shook hands and spoke a few pleasant words with everyone present.

## COMMITTEES.

### *Honorary and Advisory Committee.*

Worcester Society of Antiquity.

Rice Descendants.

President Lyman A. Ely,	William E. Rice, Worcester,
Hon. Stephen Salisbury,	Gen. Edmund Rice, U.S.A., Boston.
Hon. George F. Hoar,	Gen. A. B. R. Sprague, Worcester,
Hon. Joseph H. Walker,	Gen. Rockwood Hoar, Worcester,
Hon. E. B. Crane,	Edward E. Rice, Boston,
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### *General Committee.*

George M. Rice, Chairman.

Thomas C. Rice,	George H. Rice,
Franklin P. Rice,	George Maynard, Secretary.

### *Reception Committee.*

Mrs. William T. Forbes, Chairman.

Mrs. Nellie F. Rogers,	Mrs. A. H. Hinman,
Mrs. E. P. Curtis,	Mrs. Laura B. Martine,
Miss Florence I. Day,	Miss Florence M. Whitney.

### *Entertainment and Music.*

Charles I. Rice, Chairman.

Mrs. George E. Kirby,	Miss M. Louise Rice,
Mrs. Alphonse Prairie,	Mr. Lewis Rice.

Mr. and Mrs. Mander A. Maynard, Mrs. A. H. Hinman, Abram K. Gould and Geo. E. Arnold were in attendance at Union Station as a special committee to receive the guests from abroad; while the following named young ladies assisted as ushers at the afternoon exercises as auxiliary to the reception committee: Miss Emma F. Waite, Alice E. Waite, Elvora Curtis and Ethel Davis.



Out of the four hundred persons present the following names were secured by the committee:—

*Allston, Mass.*—Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Rice, Marion Dana Rice, Major Charles E. Rice, Mrs. Gertrude Rice Thayer.

*Amherst, Mass.*—Willis L. Towne, Mrs. Willis G. Towne.

*Athol, Mass.*—Mrs. Charlotte Rice Whittaker.

*South Athol, Mass.*—L. W. Rice.

*Barre, Mass.*—Daniel H. Rice, Thomas Brigham Rice, Miss Harriet Eliza Rice, Miss Luey Rice.

*Berlin, Mass.*—Mrs. Mary E. Rice Bartlett, Bessie R. Bartlett.

*Brookfield, Mass.*—Mrs. Martha M. Hyde, Miss Alice Blanchard, Miss Adalyn E. Rice.

*North Brookfield, Mass.*—Elizabeth Heywood Rice.

*Boston, Mass.*—Ellen Douglas L. Hibbard, Melvin E. Rice, Edward David Rice.

*East Boston, Mass.*—Charles F. Rice.

*Brighton, Mass.*—Dr. Frederick W. Rice and wife.

*Burlington, Mass.*—Francis B. Rice.

*Chelsea, Mass.*—Miss Maud L. Brown.

*Cherry Valley, Mass.*—Mrs. Katherine F. Fuller, Miss Carrie L. Fuller.

*Dorchester, Mass.*—Williams B. Brooks, Jr.

*Evanston, Ill.*—Calvin F. Rice, Miss May Louise Rice, William Rice, Miss Louise Rice.

*Framingham, Mass.*—C. C. Estey, Mrs. Selina N. Rice, Alice M. Snow.

*So. Framingham, Mass.*—Henry C. Bowers.

*Gardner, Mass.*—Mrs. Lillaoth C. H. Greene, Mrs. Eva I. Saunders, Mrs. O. T. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Greenwood.

*So. Gardner, Mass.*—Mrs. Mary L. Bent.

*North Grafton, Mass.*—Ashley W. Rice, Lyman M. Rice.

*Greenwich Village, Mass.*—Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Rice.

*Hopkinton, Mass.*—Mrs. Marion Rice Temple.





- Indianapolis, Ind.*—Martin N. Rice.
- Jamaica Plain, Mass.*—Charles W. Fiske.
- Lee, Mass.*—Abner Rice.
- Leicester, Mass.*—Daniel E. Rice.
- Lenox Bridge, Conn.*—Mrs. Alice I. Rice Lewis.
- Marlboro, Mass.*—John Edward Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph V. Jackman, Mrs. Inez Rice Wood.
- Melrose, Mass.*—Mrs. Geo. E. Gilchrist.
- Millbury, Mass.*—Mrs. Benj. L. Bray.
- New Bedford, Mass.*—Miss Emeline G. Rice, Miss Elina S. Rice.
- Newton, Mass.*—Wilbur C. Rice.
- West Newton, Mass.*—Eustace B. Rice.
- Newton Centre, Mass.*—Mrs. George W. Cobb.
- Newton Highlands, Mass.*—Mr. and Mrs. I. D. White.
- New York City.*—Mrs. Charlotte Rice Sackett, Miss Edith Rice Sackett, Mrs. Augustine Sackett.
- Northboro, Mass.*—Samuel I. Rice (aged 82), Levi Rice Prentiss.
- Northbridge, Mass.*—Benjamin L. Maynard.
- Norwich, Conn.*—Elijah Lorenzo Rice, M. Louise Rice.
- Oakdale, Mass.*—Mrs. Annie E. Rice Sykes, Mrs. Emma Rice Lawrence, Hattie Rice Hastings.
- Pawtucket, R. I.*—Mrs. Charles E. Pervear.
- Princeton, Mass.*—Herbert Alphonso Pratt, Brant Albert Pratt.
- Quincy, Mass.*—Mr. and Mrs. William Ball Rice, Fred Ball Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lee Rice.
- Rindge, N. H.*—Victor H. Rice, Miss Emma I. Rice, Miss Jessie Rice.
- Rockland, Mass.*—Col. Chas. L. Rice.
- Somerville, Mass.*—Frances Beaman Rice.
- Shrewsbury, Mass.*—Mrs. Ellen A. Rice, Irene E. Prairie.
- Southboro, Mass.*—Mrs. Charles L. Johnson.
- Springfield, Vt.*—Alfred L. Rice.
- West Sterling, Mass.*—Mrs. Solon B. Peters.



*Three Rivers, Mass.*—Mrs. Harriet Rice Powell.

*Utica, N. Y.*—Elizabeth G. Fiske.

*Wakefield, Mass.*—Miss Lucilla Hosmer.

*Ware, Mass.*—Mrs. Lina M. Collins.

*Warren, Mass.*—Geo. E. Rice.

*Westboro, Mass.*—Mrs. — Temple, Miss Alma Rice, Miss Sarah E. Bartlett, Lewis Rice, Elbridge Rice, Elbridge G. Rice, Miss Jennie M. Rice, Mrs. Louise Rice Kelley.

*Worcester, Mass.*—Miss Florence E. Rice, Mrs. Sarah D. Tucker, Mrs. Edrie J. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Day, Miss Florence I. Day, Ezra Beaman Rice, Mrs. R. Merrick Rice, Mrs. Harriet Chaffin Howe, Mrs. Edward Whitney, Lucy W. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin T. Rice, Mrs. Mary E. Hubbard, Mrs. Lucretia A. Rice, George Edmund Rice, Mrs. Melissa Rice Whitney, Miss Florence M. Whitney, George H. Rice, John A. Rice, Henry Norman Rice, Mrs. Minnie L. Rice Prior, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Rice, Mrs. Geo. E. Rice, Mrs. Edwin P. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Rienzi Rice, L. Bertrand Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Russell, Mrs. Susan E. Kirby, Miss M. Louise Rice, Maria Fiske Bemis, Mrs. Charles W. Gray, David Brainard Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Fred'k W. Rice, Mrs. Sarah E. Rice, George Calvin Rice, Mrs. Selina A. Perrin, Frank W. Lord, Prof. and Mrs. J. Edgar Dickson, J. Milton Rice, Mrs. Sarah H. Rice, Miss Christine G. Rice, Miss Mary E. Rice, Mrs. Nellie G. Landry, Alfred Chaffin, Mrs. Clarence A. Kennen, Mrs. L. G. White, Mrs. Helen White Peterson, Miss Ella J. Rider, Mrs. Ann Eliza Whitecomb, Edward S. Fiske, Florence Sherman Wheeler, Nina Mae Wheeler, Mrs. H. D. Fisher, Eva J. Prentiss, Mrs. William H. Hackett, Joseph Rice Torrey, Mrs. Eliza Rice Torrey, Mrs. Harriet Seavey, Elnora W. Curtis, Mrs. Hannah S. Atwood, Lillian Shuman Atwood, Grace Hallowell Atwood, Mrs. Harriette M. Forbes, Chas. Edwin Chaffin, Mrs. E. B. Johnson, Mrs. Susan Rice Begley, Mrs. Sarah A. Rice, Edward E. Rice.



*Port Huron, Mich.*—Miss Sophronia Rice, Lewis Rice.

*Marine City, Mich.*—Mrs. Lester.

*Scottville, Mich.*—Elias Hicks Rice.

*Galesbury, Ill.*—Fletcher C. Rice.

*Tacoma, Wash.*—Charles Reeves.

*Portland, Me.*—John O. Rice.

*Fullton, N. Y.*—Arvin Rice.

*Marion, N. Y.*—Lyman Malvern Rice.

*Hannibal, N. Y.*—E. W. Rice.

*Sodus, N. Y.*—Timothy Rice, Lyman Rice.

### ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

Through the kindness of Mrs. Selina A. Perrin, a lineal descendant of Gershom Rice, we are permitted to present in print a copy of a few old documents that cannot fail to interest not only descendants of the Rice family, but also the general reader, inasmuch as they throw some light upon the daily life, customs and character of the people who planted Worcester; and they also enable us to correct some of the inaccuracies made by our early historians.

Much credit is due Mrs. Perrin for her wisdom and foresight in preserving these valuable papers; and the many expressions of gratitude that have been and will be extended her for the act, are most truly merited.

It appears that at least eight out of the fourteen children of Thomas and Mary (—) Rice became personally interested in the settlement of Worcester; seven and perhaps eight of them having been residents of the town. Neither of them however took part in the second attempt to settle here as some writers have stated, for in 1686, Jonas was but thirteen years of age and James but seventeen. Ephraim lived in Sudbury, where his children were born, 1690 to 1713, and Elisha was (at 1686) only seven years old, and Gershom aged nineteen years. This Gershom Rice married Elizabeth Balcom, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth



(Haynes) Balcom. She was born August 16, 1672. Her father was a blacksmith and resided in Charlestown, Mass. After their marriage they removed to Groton, Conn., where they were living in 1713, as the letter written by Mrs. Balcom to her daughter, Mrs. Gershom Rice, at Groton, shows.

It also appears that Jonas Rice was the first of the sons of Thomas to purchase land in Worcester; December 4, 1711, he purchased of John Allerton, son of Thomas Allerton, sixty acres of land situated in Worcester; Thomas Allerton having been among the proprietors in the second attempt to settle the town.

By the deed which is given on the following pages the date of the purchase of Gershom Rice is noted as the twenty-sixth day of May, 1712, when he, through William Paine of Boston (a blacksmith), became the owner of the estate where he first settled in Worcester and where he resided until April 16, 1736, when he sold to Samuel Brown of Watertown the sixty acres formerly Paine's with houses thereon "where we now dwell." The purchase price was £1300, and included other lands to the amount of one hundred and thirty acres.\* About the time of this sale he may have removed to the Pakachoag hill farm, which was for many years the family homestead.

As to giving the exact time when these early settlers came with their families to Worcester, it is not an easy task from the records at hand, with the exception of the case of Nathaniel Moore, who married Grace Rice (sister of Jonas), and had: Mary, b. Dec. 20, 1702; Sary, b. July 2, 1704; Henry, b. Jany. 10, 1705-6; Judeth, b. Feby. 12, 1707-8; Grace, b. July 7, 1709 or 1710; Elizabeth, b. June 23, 1711; Elener, b. Feby. 16, 1713; Nathaniel, b. Jany. 31, 1714-15.

This last named Nathaniel Moore died in Worcester,

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\* See Records of Deeds, Vol. 8, page 75.





July 19, 1811, aged ninety-six years, and was three months old when his father came to Worcester from Sudbury, so that May, 1715, found this Moore family in Worcester. A lot of thirty acres was laid out to this Mr. Moore, Meh. 21, 1714.

As before stated, Jonas Rice bought land in Worcester in 1711 and his brother Gershom in 1712; and on Oct. 21, 1713, they with Col. Adam Winthrop and others petitioned the Great and General Court for leave to enter upon a new settlement within the township of Worcester, and that a committee be appointed to direct in ordering the prudentials of the said plantation until they reach a full settlement. The petition was granted and, under date of May 26, 1714, this committee reported through Wm. Taylor that they had given four months' time to receiving notices of claims of settlers interested there. Had visited the place and allowed the just claims of all who appeared there, and admitted twenty-eight persons more to take up lots.

A list was also presented showing names of those who were the present proprietors and in this list appear the names of Jonas, Gershom and James, Ephraim, senior, Ephraim, junior, Elisha and Josiah Rice, also Peter King, who it is said married Sarah Rice.

Jonas, Gershom and James Rice had the first three lots surveyed out under direction of this committee, and no doubt were occupied by them and their families very soon, as early, it is to be presumed, as 1714.\* Gershom had his second division of seventy-five acres laid out to him, June 20, 1718. Elisha Rice's lot of thirty acres was laid out to him, Feby. 3, 1714.

Dec. 20, 1714, Gershom Rice had a house in Worcester, standing near Oak hill, which was his first home here, and to which no doubt he came from Groton, Conn. Jany.

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\* See Records of the Proprietors of Worcester.



22, 1714, Josiah, son of Ephraim Rice of Sudbury, had a thirty-acre lot laid out to him on "Mount Tobseut."

Jany. 28, 1714, Ephraim Rice, Jr., had a thirty-acre lot laid out to him, lying at Rice's bridge over Mill brook. Nov. 5, 1714, Ephraim Rice had granted him thirty acres for a house lot, lying on the northwest side of the great Oak hill, southwest from Jonas Rice's house.

POWER OF ATTORNEY GIVEN BY JONAS RICE TO GERSHOM RICE.

Know all men by these presents I Jonas Rice of Sudbury in the County of Middlesex in the province of the Massachusetts bay in New England have made ordained Constituted and appointed and by these presents do ordain and appoint my Loving brother Gershom Rice of Groton in the County of New london in her Majesties Colony of Connectecutt yeoman in new England aforesaid: my true and Lawfull attorney: for me and In my name and stead to act & doe for me in any matter or thing: Concerning any of my lands swamps or meadow lying in the township of Groton aforesd<sup>d</sup>: to preserve and defend the same as fully and absolutely as I myself Could doe if I was personally present: And also to digg and sel any ——— mine which I have Reserved in any lands or swamps which have sold or may be found in any part of my s<sup>d</sup> land or meadows or swamps which still Remain to me unsold and to Receive for me and for my proper use any sum or sums of money as he my said attorney shall agree with any person or persons for: for any part of said mine: and also to ask demand Require and sue for & Recover any Debtes arising for any of the aforesd mine = giving and hereby granting to my said attorney my full and whole power streuth and authority in and about the premises to say do and act to all Intents and Constructions in the



law as I myself might or could do if personally present:  
 Ratifying for firm and stable: what my said attorney shall  
 do In and about the premises: In witness whereof I have  
 hereunto set my hand and seal this fifth—Day of Sept-  
 ember In the tenth year of her Majesties Reign Annoque  
 Domini 1711

signed sealed and delivered In presence of us

Nehemiah Smith Ju<sup>sr</sup>

Lydia Smith

Jonas Rice (seal)

M<sup>r</sup> Jonas Rice of Sudbury the subscriber personally  
 appeared and acknowledged the above written Instrument  
 to be his free act and deed before me September: 5<sup>th</sup> 1711  
 Nehemiah Smith Justice

DEED WILLIAM PAINE & ELIZABETH HIS WIFE TO GER-  
 SHOM RICE.

This Indenture made the Twenty Sixth Day of May in  
 the Eleventh year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady  
 Queen Anne over Great Britain & Id Defender of the faith  
 Etc Annoq. Dom. 1712 Between Gershom Rice of Groton  
 in the County of New London and Colony of Connectiutt  
 in New England Yoman of the one part and William Payne  
 of Boston in New Engd afore<sup>d</sup> Blacksmith and Elizabeth  
 his Wife of the other part *Witnesseth* that the said Wil-  
 liam Payne & Elizabeth his s<sup>d</sup> wife for & in consideration  
 of the Sum of Fifty Pounds of good Silver Current Money  
 of New England to him in hand at & before the Enseal-  
 ing and Delivery of these presents well & truly paid by  
 the Said Gershom Rice the Reeceit whereof to full Content  
 & Satisfaction he doth hereby acknowledge & thereof &  
 of every part & parcel thereof doth acquit exonerate &



discharge the S<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his heirs Executors Admi<sup>ts</sup> And Assigns & every of them for ever by these presents. Have given granted, bargined & sold Aliend enfeofte Conveyd and Confermed and by these presence for themselves & their Heirs Do fully freely and absolutely give grant bargain sell aliene enfeoft Convey and Confirm unto the Said Gershom Rice his Heirs Asigns forever All that Messuage or Tenement with all the Land whereon the same Doth Stand and is thereunto belonging and appertaining situate standing & being in Worcester in the County of Middlesex in New England containing fifty Acres more or less (being part of a Sixty-acre Lott formerly granted to S<sup>d</sup> payne by Cap<sup>t</sup> Daniel Hineksman) bing butted & bounded Southerly upon Land of George Ripley Easterly upon Land of James Butler northerly upon Land of James Holmes Westerly upon Common Land or however otherwise bounded or reputed to be bounded together with all Housing outhouses Barnes Edifices Buildings & fences Standing and being thereon Yards Orchards Gardens Meadows, Pasture Upland Woods Underwoods Commons Common of Pasture Rigts Divisions profits priviledges Hereditaments Emoluments and Appertenances Whatsoever to the Same belonging or in any wise appertaining (viz<sup>t</sup> to the whole sixty Acre Lott) also one House Lott Seituate at Worcester afores<sup>d</sup> containing by Estimation Thirty Acres more or less butted & bounded Southerly upon Land of James Butler Easterly northerly & Westerly upon Common Land together with all Rights Commons priviledges Common of pasture Hereditaments & Appertenances whatsoever to the S<sup>d</sup> House Lott belonging or in any wise appertaining which S<sup>d</sup> thirty Acre Lott was formerly granted by Capt Daniel Henchman to Aeneas Salter and by & between S<sup>d</sup> Salter & the S<sup>d</sup> payne Exchanged by parol for Duttons Lott which s<sup>d</sup> Payne had purchased with all Deeds Writings and Evidences relating thereunto And the Reversion & Reversions Remainder & Remainders thereof and





all the Estate Right Title Interest Inheretance use possession property Claim and demand whatsoever of him the said William Payne & Elizabeth his Said wife of in and to the premises and every part & parcele thereof. To Have and To Hold the Messuage or Tenement Land & premises with the appertances Unto the s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his Heirs and Assigns to his and their ownsole and proper use benefit and behoof forever And the said William Payne for himself and his heirs the s<sup>d</sup> Messuage or Tenement parcels or Lotts of Land and premises with, the appur<sup>ces</sup> & every part & parcel thereof unto the s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice & his heirs to the only soul and proper use benefit and behoof of the s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his heirs and Assigns forever against him the s<sup>d</sup> William payne and his heirs and against the Lawful Claims & demands of all and everyother Person & persons whomsoever shall and will Warrent uphold and forever defend by these presence And s<sup>d</sup> William payne for himself his heirs Executors And Adm<sup>s</sup> Doth by these presents Covenant promise grant & agree to & with the s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his heirs and Assigns by these presence in manner & form following That is to Say That he the S<sup>d</sup> William Payne at y<sup>e</sup> time of the Encealing & Delivery of these presence is true soul & Lawful Owner of all the above granted & bargained premises and stands Lawfully seised thereof in his own proper Right as of a good pure prfiet Absolute & Indefeasible Estate of Inheritance in fee simple Having in himself full power good Right and Lawful Authority to grant bargain sell and assure the same unto the s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his heirs and Assigns in Manner & form as afore<sup>sd</sup>, and that ——— clear & clearly Acquitted exonerated & discharged of and from all manner of former & other gifts grants bargains sales mortgages and of and from all other Titles troubles charges Incumbrances and Demands whatsoever.

*In Witness Whereof the partyes above named to these*



presence have hereunto Interchangably sett their hands  
& Seals the day & year first above Written

Signed sealed & delivered

William paine

in the presense of us

Signed

Jonas Rice

Elizabeth + Paine

Edward Weaver

Rec<sup>d</sup> the day & year above written of Gershom Rice  
the Sum of Fifty Pounds in full for the above mentioned  
granted & bargained premeses

Boston May 27 1712 ④ William paine.

Suffolk SS

William Payne & Elizabeth his wife personally appearing  
before me y<sup>e</sup> subscriber and of her Majesties Justices of  
y<sup>e</sup> peace in the County afores<sup>d</sup> & acknowledged the above  
written presense to be their Act & Deed Charlestown  
Octob<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1713.

Paul Dudley

Reced and accordingly Entered in the Records of  
Deeds &c for Midd<sup>x</sup>.

Lib: 16<sup>o</sup> page, 383: 384: by Sam<sup>l</sup>: Phipps Regr.

LETTER FROM MRS. BALCOM TO HER DAUGHTER,

April 1, 1713.

Elizabeth rice

Dear and loving children after kind love presented to  
you all hoping that these same lines will find you better  
than you were when you wrote I am sorry to hear you  
ill I pray god to restore you all to helth again If it bee  
his holy will and pleasure and i hope that of all our mercee  
and afflictions Witch the Lord is sending amongst us that  
he will bee pleased to give a Sanctified use of it that it  
may be for gods glory and our good. I have had a very  
ill time my selfe many sorts of pains that I faint of blood  
and now that faintness at my stomach remaineth at times  
Still I hear of a new thing I comend which I intend to  
try if please god which is walnut buds boyl them and



drink and here i have sent something for Elizabeth and mathyas also the child here is garlick boyl in milk and he should eat and drink all and I wold have you get some wormwood and tansy and spearemint and steep them in warm watter and porch lay them upon his Stomach and belly and pin them fast at night and I pray to god to bless it that it may doe him good and for Elizabeth I have sent saffron and wild margoram flowers and she may pound them and mixe them with a little sugar and (Soc doe it) and thare is other things you may use as you see ocaison and I hoap god<sup>s</sup> blesing will bee upon it and if she is able to come down when you come I should bee glad to see one more of the children beefore I dye my mother is yet alive thanks bee to god for it Your brothers and sister desire to bee remembered to you and yours the other friends are all well so fare as I know yet beg your prayers for us which wee are not very Well Desires to remember you and yours at the thrown of grace for soul and body and a comfortable way for you all and soe the lord grant may bee you and us in his own keeping that wee may have a joyful meeting at the resiraktoin of the jest I have sent you seeds and herbs and flowers and garlic for the child and so rest your mother which loves you well and it is hard to be parted I should be glad to you bee hear and soe I rest

Elizabeth balcom.

April 2<sup>d</sup> 1713

Gershom rice

Deare and Loving granson after my kind love to thee and all my granchildren I desire the fear of the lord may bee in you all and that you will mind your poor never diing souls for eternity is long and thare is but to places eather weall or woe in the world to come I pray god give You all grace to serve the lord aright and that god will be pleased to keep you from singing against him my deare child I am glad that thee is well give god thanks that thee



art well and that thee doest remember mee O children  
 mind prare and remind and labor to get an interest in  
 Christ for that will stand you in stead when all will fail  
 I commend your writing and Sifring I shall be very glad  
 to see thee and any others of you my heart's desire and  
 prayers to god is you all may bee found in Christ having  
 been imputed righteous and that your lives may bee done  
 away in him and so for your lives and health and a com-  
 fortable way may bee for you all my bouwles yearn to  
 you all and to thee in particular and wee are not very  
 Well there is littell bab a son and your gt onkell and Ant  
 desire to bee remembered to you all and soc having not  
 eles to troubl thee with and I rest thy granmother

Elizabeth baleom which

loveth thee well

Thy granmother haines is yet alive and thy granmother  
 rice also and other friends also.

Address on letter:—

APRILL 2<sup>d</sup> 1713.

THIS FOR HER LOVING DAUGHTER

ELIZ<sup>b</sup> RICE LIVING AT

GROTON

A CALL EXTENDED TO THE REV. THOMAS WHITE.

Worcester Augst<sup>th</sup> 24: 1724

At a meeting of the Church of Christ in Worcester for  
 the making Choise of a pastor after Solem & earnest ad-  
 dress to the Lord of the harvest for direction in so weighty  
 a mater the Church proceeded to the Choise of the Re<sup>vnd</sup>  
 M<sup>r</sup> Thomas White by a unanemoss vote for their Minister

In y<sup>e</sup> name of y<sup>e</sup> Church

Nathan'l Moore

Daniel Heywood





## A SUMMONS TO COURT.

Mss. To M<sup>r</sup> Gershom Rice of Worcester in the  
County of Middlesex Yoman Greeting

You are hereby required in his Majestys = name to make your appearance before the Justices of our Lord the King at the next inferior Court of Comon pleas to be holden at Concord within and for the County of Middlesex on the Last Tuesday of August Current to give evidence of what you know Relating to an action or plea of Deet then and there to be heard and Tryed Betwixt Joseph Muzey of Sudbury in the County aforesd housewrite Executor to the last will and Testament of M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Rice formerly of sudbury Deceased, plaintiff and James Rice of Worcester in the county aforesd Yeoman Defendant: hereto fail not, as you will answer your Defaalt under the pains and penalty in the Law in that behalf mad and provided Dated at Worcester the twelfth day of August in the third year of his majestyes Reign

A Dome 1729

Zephaniah Rice Town Clerk  
for worcester

## DEED FROM JONAS TO GERSHOM RICE.

To all Christian People To Whome These Presents shall Come Greeting: Know y<sup>e</sup> that I Jonas Rice of Worcester in y<sup>e</sup> County of Middsix within his majesties Province of ye massachusets Bay in New England yoman for & in consideration of a valuable som of money to me in hand before y<sup>e</sup> Encealing & Dilvery of these Presnts by Gershom Rice of ye aforesd Town & County yoman ye Recept whear of I Do by these Presnts acknowledge & my self therewith to be fully Satesfied Contented & payd & thereof & of Every part & parcel therof Do fully freely clearly & absolutely acquitt Exonarat & Discharge him ye Sd Gershom Rice his heirs & assins for Ever Hath given granted



Bargained sold Enfeofed & by these Presnts Doth fully freely clearly & absolutly give grant Bargin sell allien Convey & Confierm unto him ye Sd Gershom Rice & to his heirs & assines for Ever A Certin tract or parcel of Land Sitonat Lying & being in Worcester aforsd Containing by Esteemation Six Acres & one hundred & Twenty Rod By<sup>e</sup> same More be it Less & is bounded southrly by Land of Daniel Hinchman Westrly by Common Land Northrly by Land of Moses Lenard Eastrly by Common Land & Lyeth on both Sides of a brook Called Couls Brook on ye Westrly side of French River To have and To hold to him & his heirs for Ever & ye sd Jonas Rise Doth by these Presnts Covenant Promis & Ingage to & with ye sd Gershom Rice his heirs Executors administrators & assines as followeth vizt y<sup>e</sup> Sd Gershom Rice heirs Executors adminestros Assines or Either of them Shall & may by force & virtue of these Presnts from time to time & at all times for Ever hereafter peacably & Quietly have hold use occupy Posese & Injoye all and singular y<sup>e</sup> above granted & bargined Premeses & Every part thereof to his & there own proper and peculer use Benefitt & behof for ever without any Law Lett Suit molestation contridition or Denial. Chaling claime of him y<sup>e</sup> sd Jonas Rice his heirs Executoor administrator or any of them their or Either of these cause meens act Consent Right tittle Interest privity or procuerment or of any other parson or parsons whatsoever Lawfully claiming Do warrent & forever Defend y<sup>e</sup> same unto him ye said Gershom Rice his heirs and assines forever & further I now that ye s<sup>d</sup> Jonas Rice his heirs Executors and administrators or Either of them shall & Will at & upon ye Reasonable Request & at ye proper Cast & Charge of him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Gershom Rice his heirs or assines Redily Do perform acknowledge Levey & Exeart Every such further Lawfull and Reasonable act or Acts thing or things Dinid or Diviced in ye Law or shall be thought Needfull & Reasonable for ye More perfect assur-



ence Surity Suremaking & Conveying & Conveying of all  
 & Every ye hearby granted & Bargined Premises In Witness  
 whearof y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Jonas Rice heth hearunto set his hand &  
 Seal this                      Day of                      in the y<sup>e</sup> year of our Lord  
 one Thousand Seven hundred & Twenty four & Tenth  
 Year of ye Reign of our soverign Lord George by ye grace  
 of God of great Brittain france & Ireland King Defender  
 of ye Faith &c

Signed Sealed and Delivered

In y<sup>e</sup> Presents of us

JONAS RICE (seal)

Daniel Heywood

Moses Lenard

Worcester Ss Worcester February 1, 1731-2

Jonas Rice personally appearing freely acknowledged this  
 Instrument to be his Act and Deed

Before John Chandler Jr Jus pace

Worcester February 1, 1731-2 Rec and Recorded with  
 ye Records of Deeds for y<sup>e</sup> County of Worcester

Liber A fol<sup>o</sup> 350 John Chandler Jr Reg

#### DEED FROM EDWARD KING TO GERSHOM RICE.

To All People To Whome These Presents Shall Come  
 Greeting Know Y<sup>e</sup> that I Edward King of North Yarmouth  
 in ye County of York within his majesties Province of  
 y<sup>e</sup> Masachusetts Bay in New England Yeoman for & in  
 Consideration of y<sup>e</sup> sum of two hundred pounds Current  
 Money to me in hand payd before y<sup>e</sup> Ensealing and De-  
 livery of these Presents by Gershom Rice of the Town of  
 Worcester in y<sup>e</sup> County of Middsex & Province aforesd  
 yeoman y<sup>e</sup> Receipt whearof I Do by these Presents acknowl-  
 edge and my Self to be there with fully Satisfied Contented  
 & payd & thereof & of Every part thereof Do Exonarate  
 acquitt & Discharge him y<sup>e</sup> Sd Gershom Rice his heirs  
 Executors & Adminestrators, by these Presents Hath given



granted Bargained Sold Alliened Enfeofed made over and Confirmed and by these Presents Doth give grant Bargain sell Convey & Confirm unto him y<sup>e</sup> Sd Gershom Rice his heirs & Assines forever: three Several parcels of Land & Meadow Lying Situate and being in Worcester afore Sd Containing in y<sup>e</sup> whole one hundred & twenty five acres & a half be y<sup>e</sup> same more or be it less and is bounded as follows Vitt begining at a stake and heep of Stones Standing a little Westerly of y<sup>e</sup> house of Daniel Rice from thence runing westerly over a hill to a Stake and heep of Stones then turning & runing northerly to a White Oak tree markt and from thence turning & runing Westerly by Land of Elijah Cook to a small maple tree marked thence turning northerly & runing to a gray oake tree marked and then turning ye angle & runing westerly to a Stake & Stones then turning southerly & runing to a Stake & heep of Stones & from thence runing westerly over y<sup>e</sup> hill to a stake & heep of Stones, and from thence turning and runing Southerly to a Stake & heep of Stones, and from Sd Stake turning y<sup>e</sup> angle & runing Easterly by y<sup>e</sup> Land of John Dunkin to a Stake & heep of Stones, then turning y<sup>e</sup> angle & runing Southerly to a white pine tree marked Standing in a small swamp, then turning Easterly & runing to a Stake & heep of Stones being the corner mark between Sd Edward King & Daniel Rice, and from Sd heep of Stones Northerly by Land of Daniel Rice to ye Stake & Stones first above mentioned.

And also one Lott of meadow Containing three acres together with ye Elowence as Layd out Lying on both sides of the river Called french river & Lyes a litel Easterly of ye above Sd Land And also ye one half part of five acres of Land and Streem near the house of Daniel Rice as it was formerly resarved in common or partnership between y<sup>e</sup> sd Edward King & Daniel Rice for Conveinency of building of a mill or mills. Which several parcels of Land meadow & stream being y<sup>e</sup> whole of what s<sup>d</sup> Edward King





formerly bought of James Rice John Dunkin Jur & Daniel Rice. To Have and To hold Said granted & Bargined Premises with ye appertainences Priviledges & Comodities thereunto belonging or in wise appertaining, to him ye Sd Gershom Rice his heirs & assignes for Ever And I ye sd Edward King Do by these Presents Covenant Promis & grant to and with ye Gershom Rice taht at & before ye Ensealing and Delivery of these Presents I am ye true sole & Lawfull owner of y<sup>e</sup> above granted & Bargined Premises: and have in & of myself good Right full Power and Lawfull authority Sd Premises thus to sell convey and confirm in manner as above said and that the sd Gershom Rice his heirs & Assigns Shall & May by force of these Presents from time to time & at all times for Ever hereafter peaceably & Quietly have hold use occupy Poses & Injoy all & singuler y<sup>e</sup> hereby granted & Bargined Premises together with all y<sup>e</sup> Buildings fences Rights prevelidges & appurtinences thereon or there unto belonging to his and their only proper & peculuer use benifit & behoofe for Ever without any Lawful Let Suit Contradiction or Denial Challenge Claime or Demands of him ye sd Edward King his heirs Excecutor administrs Furthermore I y<sup>e</sup> sd Edward King for me my heirs Execut & Administrs Do Covenant Promise and Ingage to and with ye sd Gershom Rice his heirs and assignes y<sup>e</sup> above Demesid Premises against ye Lawfull claims or Demands of any Parson or Parsons whatso ever for ever hereafter to warrent secure & Defend In Witness whearof I have hearunto set my hand and seal this thirteenth Day of October in ye year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred & Twenty nine & in ye third year of ye of the riegn of our sovrein Lord George y<sup>e</sup> second by ye grace of God of grate Brittain france & Irland King Defender of the Faith &c  
Signed Sealed & Delivered

In Presents of us

James Rice  
Jonas Rice

Edward King



(Endorsement.)

Worcester SS. Worcester february the 17<sup>th</sup> 1731-2 then Edward King the subscriber to the deed hereto annexed personally appeared and freely acknowledged the said Deed to be his voluntary act and deed before me William Jenison Justice of peace

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LETTER FROM EDWARD KING TO HIS UNCLE.

North Yarmouth October y<sup>e</sup> 24, 1730.

Uncle Rice Sir After my kind Love and respects to you and your family hoping you are all well and in good health as I am at this time although it hath pleased god to visit me with a Long and sore fit of Sickness yet I am recovered to a considerable measure of strength again for which I desire forever to be thankful for: and bless my maker that I am not in my grave: as many of my dear friends and relations who did belong to the town of Worcester have been laid of Late: which Calls for my deep humiliation and mourning: that the hand of god hath been so heavy upon many of your families: and especially upon the family of my on<sup>e</sup> James Rice: whom it hath pleased god to remove out of the world with several of his children: and hath Left a poor distressed widow: and fatherless Children for and with them: and all my mourning friend who weep for their departed Relatives I can heartily mourn all though I am not present with you to be partaker of your grief: but yet Let not your mourning be beyond measure: but remember that we all are in the hand of god and he disposeth of us as seemeth him good therefore Let us Submit our selves to his Will in all thing and glorify his name.

Sir I have been desired to Come up to Worcester time after time but I have met with disappointments that I can not come at present: but I desire to be up as soon as



posebly I can: I reseved a Leater frome Sam<sup>ell</sup> Graves jun<sup>r</sup> which tells me he wants his money I owe him: and I cannot get it for him at present: but if you cane do it for me I shall be glad: or make any turne or order so that he may have his money and take up my bond: you will very much oblige me: for I have met with: Loss and dissapointments so that I Cant git money to answer my cands: Cap<sup>tt</sup> Jenison sends me word that he wants his money which I thought you wold have taken care abot and sold my mayer to pay him that money: Sir if you can pay to Richard Flagg what I owe him it will be as good as money to me if you take up my bond of him: Sir Pray do the best you cane for me and Let me hear from you as sone as you can: I think hard I have not heard from you before this time: for I neaver have reseved ane Leter from Worcester since I Left it. Sir I would informe you Likewise that the Commitey would not alow the Six pounds that you ware to pay upon the Lot I bought of you to be paid: but I am oblyged to pay it my self which I hope you will Consider when I Come up to Worcester. Give my servis to all my friends relations and acquaintance in the town of Worcester Espsily to the family of De<sup>em</sup> Nathaniel Moor Give my love to my bretherne as you have opertunity: tell them I am well and desine to be up in a short time when I can I hope I shall find you all in helth and in prosperity: So I Remaine

Yours to Serve until Deth

EDWARD KING

To Mr Gershom Rice  
Living in Worcester

#### AN AGREEMENT FOR THE EASE OF TRADE AND COMMERCE.

This Indenture made the Ninth Day of September Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty and in the fourteenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovireign Lord



George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith &c. By and Between Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> of Worcester in the County of Worcester in the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New England Yeoman, on the one Part, and Robert Auchmuty, of Roxbury Esq: Samuel Adams, and William Stoddard of Boston Esq<sup>r</sup>: Peter Chardon, of Boston, Merchant Samuel Watts, of Chelsea Esq all in the count of Suffolk, George Leonard of Norton in the County of Bristol, Esq: Robert Hale of Beverly, Esq: John Choate of Ipswich: Esq: and Thomas Cheever of Lynn, Gentlemen, All in the county of Essex, Derectors of the Manufactory Company in Boston in the County of Suffolk aforesaid, of the other Part. *Witnesseth*, That whereas the said Directors and their Partners have agreed for the Ease of Trade and Commerce among themselves, to make One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, called manufactory Bills, and equal to Lawful Money at six shillings and eight Pence pr Ounce, whereof the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> hath undertaken for the sum of Two Hundred Pounds and received the same of the said Directors, and given them security to repay it at twenty equal annual Payments, with three per cent. interest.

*Now Therefore* for the greater benefit and security of either Party in this undertaking, it is mutually covenanted by and between them, in Manner and Form following, Viz.

*Inprimis*, The said Gershom Rice Ju<sup>r</sup> in consideration thereof. And of the Covenants and Agreements on the Part of the said Derectors hereafter mentioned, for himself, his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, doth hereby Covenant with the said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, and Thomas Cheever*, the Derectors aforesaid and each of them severally, their and each of their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators.

1. That he the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Heirs, Execu-





tors, and administrates, will at the expiration of every year from this Date, annually, during the space of Twenty Years, pay to the said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, and Thomas Cheever*, their Executors and Administrates for the use of the Said Company. Five in the Hundred of the Principal Sum aforesaid by him received. And three per Cent. Interest for the Principal enjoyed in such Manufactory Bills, or in merchantable Hemp, Flax, Cordage, Bar-Iron Cast-Iron, Linnen, Copper, Tann'd Leather, Flax-Seed, Bees-Wax, Bayberry-Wax, Sail Cloth, Canvas, Nails, Tallow, Lunber, Viz. shingls, Staves, Hoops, White Pine Boards, White oak Plank White oak Boards and ship Timber: Barrel Beef, Barrel Pork, Oil, Whale-Bone, and Cord-wood of the Produce and manufactures of this Province or Logwood. at such Prices as the Directors shall judge they pass for in Lawful Money at *six shillings and eight Pence* pr Ounce, with one per cent. Advance thereon at the respective Times of Payment.

2. That the said *Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup>* his Heirs, Executors and Administors, will from Time to Time at thirty Days notice pay to the said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate and Thomas Cheever*, in the aforesaid Bills or manufacturs his rateable Part of all such sums of money as shall be lost or become chargable on the said Company by the failure of any of the Partners, or by any other accident whatsoever, to indemnify the Signers of those Bills and save the said Company harmless.

3. That he the said *Gershom Rice* his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, at all times till the principal sum aforesaid by him received and Interest thereof aforesaid is paid in and while he or they have any share or Interest in the manufactory company aforesaid will readily receive and take all such manufactory Bills as shall be tendered



him or them by any Person or Persons in all Payments, Trade and Business, as so much lawful money at *six shillings and eight Pence pr Ounce*.

4. That he the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, will from Time to Time at thirty Days notice pay and satisfy to the said *Robert Auchmuty Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, Thomas Cheever*, their executors and administrates, his rateable Part of all such sums of money, Losses and Damages as they or the Company shall sustain or suffer by means of any Orders, Rules, Instructions, Laws, or other acts of Government whatsoever, towards the securing and indemnifying of the said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, Geo Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, and Thomas Cheever* and the said Company.

5. That he the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, will at all Times when thereto requested, give such further or better security for the performance of his yearly Payments in manner aforesaid, as they shall judge necessary.

6. That he the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Heirs, Executors and Administrates, will (in Case any of the said Directors shall be displaced or taken away by Death) perform all said aforesaid Covenants to the remaining Directors: will renew his Securities and Covenants now given with the remaining Directors and Successors chosen in the room of such as are displaced or taken away as aforesaid. Whenever they shall think proper: and at all times upon thirty Days notice will pay and perform his rateable Part required to indemnify such displaced Director, and generally the Heirs, Executors and Administrates of all such Directors as shall be displaced as aforesaid or taken away by Death, for every thing done by them in the faithful Discharge of their trust as Directors, or as Signers of the Bills.

And On the Other Part, the said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel*



*Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, and Thomas Cheever*, Directors as aforesaid, for themselves their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, do hereby covenant with the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Executors Administrators and Assigns.

1. That they will yearly lay before the Company in their Annual Meeting a full and just Account of all the Company's Affairs under their management for the year past, fairly entered in the company's Books.

2. That the said Directors shall sell as soon as they can (for the company's Bills) all such manufactures as shall be brought in by the annual Payments of the Partners for Principal and Interest, and let out (after the necessary charges of the company are deducted, as soon as they can) on Lawful Interest with good Security, the Produce of such sale, and also such Bills as shall be brought in in such Payments, and always husband and improve the Company's Stock in their Hands to the best Advantage of the Company.

3. That they will pay to the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Executors, Administrators or Assigns, on Demand, his and their rateable Part of every Dividend of the Company's Profits to be agreed upon at any General Meeting of the Partners by the major Part of the Partners present concurring with the major Part of the Directors, and after the Expiration of *Twenty Years* to pay to the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his heirs Executors administrators according to his or their respective Interests all such Dividends as shall be agreed upon by the major Part of the Partners, outstanding Bills, and contingent Charges always to be first satisfied.

4. The said *Robert Auchmuty, Samuel Adams, William Stoddard, Peter Chardon, Samuel Watts, George Leonard, Robert Hale, John Choate, and Thomas Cheever*. Do severally covenant with the said Gershom Rice Jun<sup>r</sup> his Executors Administrators and Assigns, Viz. each of them for himself,



his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, that in case he be displaced or taken away by Death, then he, his Heirs, Executors or Administrators, shall and will instantly deliver up to the remaining Directors for the use of the Company, all the Bills, Goods, and Things Whatsoever as are in his or their Hands belonging to the Company, and will never more intermeddle with any things or affairs pertaining to the Office and Duty of a Director.

In Witness of all which, the Parties aforementioned hereunto interchangeably put their Hands and Seals at *Boston* aforesaid, the Day and Year first above written.

Signed Sealed and Delivered	Samuel Adams	<>
in Presence of	Win Stoddard	<>
Sam: Holbrook	George Leonard	<>
Sam. Auchmuty	Robert Hale	<>
	John Choate	<>
	Thomas Cheever	<>

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#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN GERSHOM RICE AND GERSHOM RICE, JR.

Know all men by these Presents that I Gershom Rice Junr of Worcester in ye County of Worcester in his Majesties Province of ye Matchusetts Bay in New England Gentleman am holden & pirsonly Bound and obliged unto my honrd Father Gershom Rice Gentleman of Worcester aforesaid in ye full and Just Sum of one Thousand pounds Curent money of Said Province to be payd unto him ye Said Gershom Rice his heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns to wich payment will & Truly to be made & Don I binding Self my heirs Executors and Administrators personly by these Presents Sealed with my Seal this fifteenth Day of February in ye year afour Said one Thousand Seven hundred & forty seven eight and in the twenty first year of ye Reign of our Souvreign Lord George ye Second by ye grace of God of Greate Britain France and Irland King Defender of ye Faith &c





The Condition of ye above written obligation is such that if ye above bounded Gershom Rice Jur his heirs Executors or Administrators or either of them Shall & Do well and Faithfully during ye natural Lives of his aged Father and mother Perform to them the following particulars namely to procure & Deliver to them or one of them yearly and every year one hundred and twenty pound of good Beef Two hundred & forty pound of good pork four barrels of good Sider nine bushels of Indian Corn Three bushels of Rye Two bushels of wheet Two bushels of malt one bushel of Saltt Thirty five pounds of Butter Seven bushels of Apples four Quarters of mutton Twelve pounds of Sugure four ounces of peper two ounces of allspice fourty pound of Cheese and also suitable & Desent Clothing of all sorts and all other neccesserys of life not afore mentioned and nusing in sickness and necessary phisians and also Convinent house Room and a horse to ride to ye place of public worship and also to aford them a Decent Christian Burial at Death it is the true Intent and meaning hereof that if his honed mother should Decease before his Father that then one third part of the Incom to abate. That then ye above written obligation to be voide and of none efect else to Stand & Remain in full force Strength & Virtue  
Signed Sealed & Delivered

In Presence of us

GERSHOM RICE { Jr }

JAMES McPIERSON

JONAS RICE

#### CONFESSION OF FAITH OF GERSHOM RICE.

I Adore Sovereign Grace That's made me a Rationall Creture: that's favoured me with The Bible, wherein I am directed or assisted to Glorifie God love & Enjoye him for Ever hereafter.

I praise Infinite mercy that I was Born of Godly Parents; whose Care was to Bring me up in the fear of God; but



I like a Wicked & Sinfull one; Have Greatly Stray'd from him; & am Come much Short of my duty.

According to what light & knowledge, I have of Gods word & Spirit, I do freely & I hope sincerely Declare my Faith In the unity of Divine Essence; Father, Son, & Spirit I Believe God has made all things for his pleasure; & the advancement of his Glory; & that at first God made all things very Good; wisely Suted to attaine the End of their Creation. I Really believe God made me In my first parents holy & Righteous: But by their fall from God; I am fallen with them; & am become Guilty of their first transgression. I believe God in his word; & that he mercifully provided a Saviour; for Such lost perishing Creatures as I am

I believe God has appointed holy ordenances; as proper means of attaining Justification & Sanctification. I hope I have Endeavour'd to live in the conceivable performance of Sum of them; as I hope through Grace Receiv'd profit to my Soule hereby.

I admire Infinite Grace; That By his word or Spirit: & by Godly Counsell & Instruction: I am persuaded to a Constant living in the fear of God

I have for some time had; I hope Reall desires; of offering my Selfe to the people of God In order to my attending on the Holy Communion with them at his Table. But the Evill one & my wicked heart have been too Successfull to Procure my Delayes; But now I hope their is in me a Godly resolution to Delay no longer. I have greate Incitation & Incouragement from God in his word to Come. Therefore now I humbly offer my Selfe to the Communion of Gods people; pleading your acceptance, & Earnest prayers to Almyhtey for acceptance, that he would Graciously meet with me In this ordinance of the Lords Supper, that by due attendance hereon & all other ordinance of Divine Institution, I may be made meete: for the Saints In light.

GERSHOM RICE

77 00843 93













